FRIDAY
November 18, 2022

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U.K. government rolls out tax hikes

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A CASE FOR TRANSPARENCY

Opaque political financing could hit democracies

Electoral bonds too need to be monitored

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India to fly diplomats to Andaman session

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Hindus' suit in Gyanvapi case maintainable, says court

Abhinay Lakshman
NEW DELHI

A Varanasi fast-track court on Thursday ruled that a suit filed by Hindu plaintiffs seeking possession of the Gyanvapi mosque premises, worshipping rights and a bar on Muslims from entering the area is maintainable. Dismissing the application under Order 7 Rule 11 of the Code of Civil Procedure filed by the Anjuman Intezamia Masjid Committee, the court listed the suit for further proceedings on December 2.

The court of Civil Judge (Senior Division) Mahendra Kumar Pandey rejected the Committee's stance that the suit was barred under the Waqf Act, 1995 and the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991 and other special laws.

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SC agrees to list plea for Collegium system review

Petitioners seek revival of National Judicial Appointments Commission that gave government a say in appointment of judges; call Collegium mode a 'synonym for nepotism and favouritism'

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud on Thursday agreed to list in due course a writ petition to reconsider the Collegium system of judicial appointments to the Supreme Court and the High Courts.

The petition sought the revival of the National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC), which briefly gave the government an equal role along with the judiciary in the appointment of judges to the constitutional courts before it was struck down by the Supreme Court in 2015.

The petition follows recent verbal attacks by Law Minister Kiren Rijiju on the Collegium system, calling it opaque.

The petitioner-in-person, advocate Mathews J. Nedumpara, with other lawyers, said the Constitution Bench judgment of October 2015 had thwarted the "will of the people" by striking down the 99th Constitution Amendment Act, which introduced the NJAC mechanism.

The petition said the 2015 judgment should be rendered *void ab initio* as it had revived the Collegium system.

CONTINUED ON
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An open case

The Supreme Court has agreed to list a writ petition to reconsider the Collegium system of judicial appointments to the Supreme Court and the High Courts. Following recent exchanges between the executive and the judiciary over the fairness of the system, a new front seems to have opened:

1993: The Supreme Court Collegium comes into existence by virtue of a judgment of a nine-judge Bench

2014: Parliament amends the Constitution and simultaneously enacts the National Judicial Appointment Commission Act to substitute the Collegium with the commission

October 16, 2015: A five-judge Constitution Bench declares the 99th Constitution Amendment Act and the NJAC Act unconstitutional and revives the Collegium

> Nowhere in the world except India is there a practice that judges appoint their brothers as judges

KIREN RIJIJU
Union Law Minister, at a function on October 18

> In the elaborate procedure (followed by the Collegium)... there are enough checks and balances

SUPREME COURT
in a November 11 judgment

Centre seeks review of SC order freeing Rajiv case convicts

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

'Absence of Union's assistance to court resulted in glaring breach of principles of natural justice'

The Centre on Thursday moved the Supreme Court seeking a review of its order prematurely releasing six convicts serving life imprisonment for the assassination of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in 1991.

The Union contended that the court had not afforded it an adequate opportunity of hearing before ordering the release of the convicts.

The Centre said the convicts had not made the Union a respondent in the Supreme Court despite being a "necessary and proper party" in the litigation.

"This procedural lapse on the part of the petitioners resulted in non-participation of the Union of India in subsequent hearings of the case... absence of the Union of India's assistance to the Supreme Court during adjudication of the matter has resulted in admitted and glaring breach of principles of natural justice and has, in fact, resulted in the miscarriage of justice," the Centre said.

Highlighting that four of the freed convicts were Sri Lankan nationals, the government said: "Granting remission to terrorists of foreign nation, who had been duly convicted in accordance with the law of land for gruesome offence of assassinating the former Prime Minister, was a matter which had international ramification."

CONTINUED ON
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NEARBY

Voter data 'theft': CEO orders probe

BENGALURU
While the Congress demanded the resignation of Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai over the alleged "theft" of voter data in Bengaluru, Chief Electoral Officer of Karnataka Manoj Kumar Meena ordered a probe into the privacy breach issue. » Page 6

'Safe Route To School' project to be revived

BENGALURU
Special Commissioner, Traffic, M.A. Saleem, plans to revive the 'Safe Route To School' (SRTS) project. » Page 2

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GRAPHICALLY SPEAKING

Extreme climate is the new normal

India recorded extreme weather events on 241 of the 273 days from January 1 to September 30, 2022, according to the **Centre for Science and Environment**'s latest report which captures climate change in India. So, 88% of the days in the first nine months had an extreme weather event in one or more States of India. Excerpts from the report:

Month-wise list of select records set during 2022

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September
Temperature records	Eighth warmest night-time temperature since 1901	East & northeast India saw its 11th coldest February in 121 years	India recorded its hottest March in 121 years	The Northwest recorded its warmest April in 121 years	The Northwest saw 1.43°C warmer night-time temperature than 1981-2010*	Central India was a 0.71°C warmer than 1981-2010	East & northeast India saw its warmest July in 121 years	East & northeast India saw its warmest August in 121 years	East & northeast India saw its fourth warmest September in 121 years
Rainfall records	Seventh wettest since 1901. The rainfall levels were 129% above LPA*	East & northeast India saw 44% surplus rainfall	Driest in 112 years. Rainfall was 71% lower than LPA	The Northwest recorded its driest April in 68 years	South Karnataka recorded its wettest May in 121 years	Assam & Meghalaya saw the wettest June in 121 years	East & northeast India recorded its driest July in 121 years	East & northeast India recorded its third-driest August in 121 years	East & northeast India also saw a 14% rainfall deficit

Day-wise extreme weather events in India

Heatwave Cyclone Snowfall Cloudburst Lightning and storm Cold wave/cold days Heavy rain, flood and landslide

Chart 1 | The chart shows the number of States/U.T.s affected by various extreme weather events every day in 2022. The higher the bar, the more the number of States/U.T.s affected, and vice-versa.

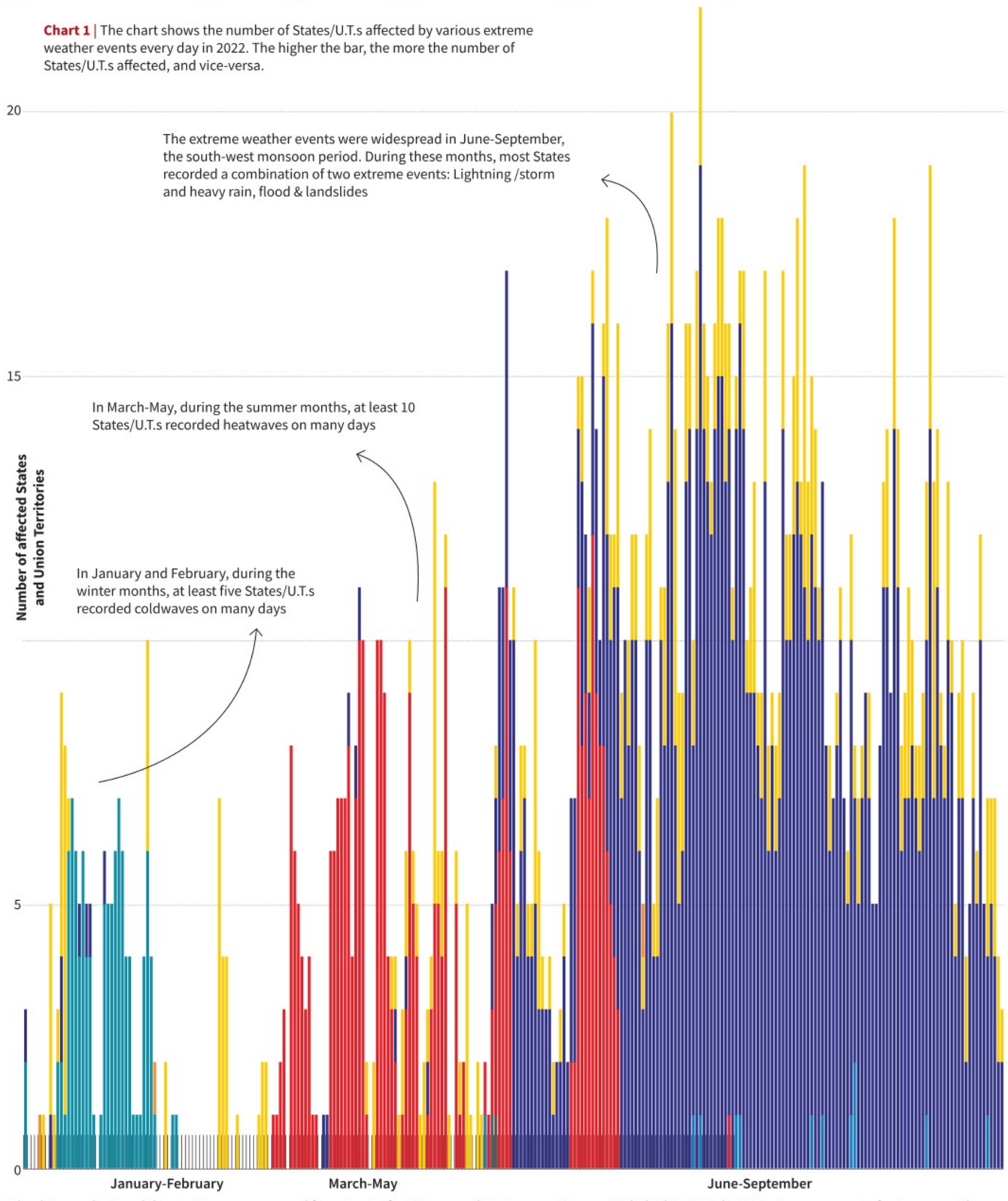

Chart 2 | The chart shows the % of days in a month an extreme event was recorded in 2022. For instance, in January, 71% days saw a cold wave in at least one part of India

All figures in %	Heavy rains, floods and landslides	Lightning and storms	Cold waves/ cold days	Heatwaves	Cloudbursts	Snowfall	Cyclones
Jan.	19	23	71	0	0	3	0
Feb.	0	18	29	0	0	4	0
Mar.	6	13	0	55	0	0	0
Apr.	20	63	0	77	0	0	0
May	68	65	0	35	3	0	3
June	100	77	0	47	0	0	0
July	100	100	0	3	13	0	0
Aug.	100	71	0	0	13	0	0
Sep.	100	93	0	0	7	0	0

Chart 3 | The chart shows the month-wise rainfall anomaly in 2022 compared to the long period average (1981-2010). For instance, in January, rainfall in central India was 203% higher than the average rainfall in the 1981-2010 period

Month	Central	East & northeast	India	Northwest	South peninsula
January	203.1	36.0	129.0	133.0	142.0
February	-50.0	44.0	-19.0	-34.0	-45.0
March	-87.0	-56.0	-71.0	-89.0	-14.0
April	-55.0	32.0	-2.0	-82.0	37.0
May	-12.0	34.0	34.0	-10.0	91.0
June	-30.0	22.0	-8.0	-12.0	-14.0
July	42.8	-44.7	16.8	10.8	60.4
August	18.0	-27.0	3.0	-10.0	27.0
September	23.0	-14.0	8.0	13.0	4.0

Chart 4 | The chart shows the month-wise mean temperature in various parts of India in 2022. The months of May recorded a mean temperature of 32°C, the highest for any month across all regions

Month	Central	East & northeast	India	Northwest	South peninsula
January	19.97	16.67	19.74	11.60	26.11
February	22.65	17.85	21.48	14.79	26.63
March	28.02	25.20	26.67	22.99	28.80
April	31.35	26.94	29.41	28.18	30.05
May	32.04	27.98	29.96	29.75	29.65
June	30.81	28.20	29.59	30.20	29.05
July	27.60	29.57	28.17	28.41	27.73
August	24.39	25.45	24.45	23.44	24.66
September	24.16	24.90	23.89	22.04	24.44

Chart 5 | The chart shows the month-wise mean temperature anomaly in 2022 compared to the long period average (1981-2010). For instance, in March, mean temperature in northwest India was 3.2°C higher than the average in the 1981-2010 period

Month	Central	East & northeast	India	Northwest	South Peninsula
January	-0.710	0.170	0.090	-0.370	0.810
February	-0.120	-1.320	-0.160	-0.030	0.200
March	1.420	1.800	1.610	3.220	0.590
April	1.540	0.870	1.360	3.070	0.330
May	0.350	0.150	0.210	1.230	-0.520
June	0.440	0.070	0.350	0.580	0.230
July	-0.360	1.640	0.190	0.210	-0.150
August	0.220	0.970	0.440	0.530	0.260
September	0.450	1.120	0.640	1.050	0.250

Defining the extremes

Lightning and storm

Lightning is an electrical discharge caused by imbalances between storm clouds and the ground or within the clouds themselves. Storms include duststorms (caused by thunderstorms or strong pressure gradients associated with cyclones which increase wind speed over a wide area), hailstorms (an outgrowth of a severe thunderstorm in which balls or irregularly shaped lumps of ice fall with the rain), thunderstorms and gales (a very strong wind)

Heavy rains, floods and landslides

Heavy rainfall happens when a region receives 64.5-115.5 mm rain in 24 hours. In the case of very heavy rainfall, the threshold increases to 115.6-204.4 mm and in extremely heavy rainfall it is 204.5 mm or more.
The CSE's report has considered all very heavy and extremely heavy rainfall events, and heavy rainfall events only when they have caused damages

Heatwaves

The report has considered both heatwaves (4.5°C to 6.4°C departure of the maximum temperature from normal), and severe heatwaves (departure of more than 6.4°C)

Cold waves

A cold day is when the maximum temperature drops by 4.5°C to 6.4°C than average. If the deviation is >6.4°C, then it is a severely cold day. A cold wave is when the minimum temperature drops by 4.5°C to 6.4°C than normal. Similarly, a severe coldwave is when the minimum temperature drops by >6.4°C than normal. The CSE's report has considered all the four categories

Snowfall

Snowfall is a hydrological hazard where a large amount of snow can affect transport, crops and people. Annual Disaster Weather Report by IMD reports the snowfall cases over India that caused human deaths. The CSE's report has also considered only those snowfall events that caused human deaths

Cloudbursts

Cloudburst is very heavy rainfall (100mm per hour) over a localised area. It is accompanied with strong winds and lightning

Cyclones

Cyclones are intense vortex or whirls in the atmosphere with very strong winds circulating around them in anti-clockwise direction in the Northern Hemisphere and in clockwise direction in the Southern Hemisphere

The data, analysis and descriptions were sourced from Centre for Science and Environment's report titled 'Climate India 2022: An assessment of extreme weather events between January and September'

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New traffic chief to bring back 'Safe Route To School' project

SRTS was initiated in 2012 by the Bengaluru Traffic Police in collaboration with various civic agencies and government departments when M.A. Saleem was at the helm previously; the aim is to reduce traffic congestion around schools

Jahnavi T.R.
BENGALURU

The newly appointed Special Commissioner, Traffic, M.A. Saleem, has swung into action and planned various measures to reduce travel time and make roads safer for all commuters.

Ever since schools resumed physical classes this year, a number of problems, including traffic jams near school premises in the mornings and evenings, have become more prominent than ever.

To address and find solutions to such issues, the traffic top officer plans to revive the 'Safe Route To School' (SRTS) project.

The scheme was initiated in 2012 by the Bengaluru Traffic Police (BTP) in collaboration with various civic agencies and government departments when Mr. Saleem was at the helm previously. Back then, with the aim of reducing traffic congestion around schools, this project had three main points of action.

One of the points of action of the project is staggered school timings, which means schools have to start classes before 8.30 a.m. and finish before 3.30 p.m. to avoid clash with office timings. K. MURALI KUMAR

Safe Route To School project

What is SRTS
Community-based road safety programme for schools

Who is involved
BTP, Education Department, Transport Department, BMTC, and school managements

Action plan

Staggered school timings: Start before 8.30 a.m. and finish before 3.30 p.m.

Use of public transport: Recommend public transport to achieve decongestion

Engineering: Overall improvement in local traffic environment to enhance safety of students

Education: Comprehensive Road Safety Education Programme under Students' Association for Road Safety

Enforcement: Deal with illegal and unsafe behaviour of drivers of school vehicles, and others to ensure maximum compliance with traffic laws

Agenda

The first one was staggered school timings, which meant that the schools which were included in the project had to start classes before 8.30 a.m. and finish before 3.30 p.m. to avoid clashing with office timings.

The second point was to encourage parents to opt for public transport as the mode of transport to school for their children. The other part of the project included deploying officers with special 'school duties' during beginning and finishing of schools for enforcement and safety of children.

The project had initially seen some contention from private school managements as well as parents. It had also prompted several schools to start their own transport fleets for students and teachers. The project had also won awards and accolades even on the international level. Given the situation now, especially in the Central Business District (CBD) areas, Mr. Saleem believes that the project needs to be brought back with a few modifications to suit the current traffic problems.

"Safety of schoolchildren is paramount to us. The reintroduction of SRTS will also be helpful in avoiding traffic congestion near schools.

"As it is a collaborative project between the BTP, Education Department, Transport Department, BMTC and school authorities, we need some time to chalk out all the details. The project will mostly be revived in a month or two," Mr. Saleem told *The Hindu*.

As the traffic police take up decongestion of arterial roads and major junctions, citizens have complained that some traffic is now being diverted into less busy, residential areas, causing snarls there.

When asked about this, Mr. Saleem said that the previously launched 'Local Area Traffic Management Plan' will be strengthened to address such problems.

Move welcomed

The move has received the thumbs up from some of the stakeholders.

"This is a welcome move and it should work as a collaboration between the government, police, and the school managements.

"For the schools in CBD, our request is that parents should be allowed to park on just one lane of the road while picking up their children in the evening for around 45 minutes. In our school, we already have 14 BMTC buses and we even permit two-wheelers to park inside, but it is not possible to let even four-wheelers park inside. So that should be allowed on a lane of the road," said Sunil Fernandes S.J., principal, St. Joseph's Boys High School.

"Anything which keeps our children safe is a good initiative. But if they would like to promote public transport, then last mile connectivity is absolutely necessary, especially if parents should send their children without worries," said Asha M., parent of a class 7 student.

ED arrests partner of Injaz International firm for money laundering

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Officials of the Directorate of Enforcement (ED) arrested Misbahuddin S., partner in Injaz International, under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002 for his alleged involvement in siphoning off and transferring huge funds by luring depositors with promises of high returns.

He was produced before the Special Court (PMLA), Bengaluru, and taken into custody till November 19.

- Injaz International accepted deposits from investors, cheated them, and violated RBI guidelines
- The firm had been allegedly running investment schemes by luring depositors with promises of high returns since 2016
- The CCB has been investigating the scam, which is believed to be over ₹250 crore

FIR against firm

The ED initiated money laundering investigation on the basis of an FIR registered against Injaz International and Associated Group located in Bengaluru under sections of Prize Chits and Money Circulation Schemes (Banning) Act, 1978 and Chit Funds Act, 1982 and under cheating by Wilson Garden Police Station, Bengaluru.

The CCB started investigating the scam, which is believed to be over ₹250 crore.

During the investigation, it was revealed that Injaz International is a partnership firm, where Suhail Ahamed Shariff and Misbahuddin are the two partners of the firm.

As per the FIR and investigation conducted, Injaz International accepted deposits from investors, cheated them and violated RBI guidelines. The firm had been allegedly running investment schemes by luring depositors with promises of high returns since 2016.

No IT returns

Injaz International routed money through multiple bank accounts and had neither filed any income tax returns nor done any audits.

The firm collected huge funds from investors and siphoned off the collected amount to various individuals including its partners and related entity Injaz Builders and Developers, said the ED, adding that further investigation is under progress.

Farmer held for murder

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Chelur police on Thursday arrested a farmer for allegedly killing his female friend who is said to have left him for another man.

According to the police, the accused Venkatesh had an illicit affair with the deceased Narasamma, 40, a shepherd from Chickballapur district.

Venkatesh told the police that the deceased was cheating on him and had started avoiding him. After repeated attempts, Venkatesh on Wednesday confronted her at an open field and the duo had a heated argument.

In the melee, Venkatesh strangulated her. The accused later dumped her body in a bush and escaped. The murder came to light when Narasamma did not return home and the family members went in search for her and found her body.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client SRI. J. YOGESH, S/o. Sri. A. D. JAGADEESWARAN has entered into an agreement of sale to purchase the schedule property mentioned hereunder for a valuable consideration with its owner SRI. UDAYA KUMAR .B .K, Aged about 45 years, S/o. Late. K. C. Babu Rao, Residing at No. 36, Ward No. 191, Sampangappa Road, Akshay Layout Near Shiva Reddy Building, Naganathapura Village Electronic City Post, Bangalore- 560 100.

If any person/s having any claims, right, title and interest whatsoever over the schedule property may forward their objections to the undersigned in writing with supporting documents of their such claims, within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. Failing which it will be deemed that there are no claims, right, title and interest by anybody and my client will proceed for completion of sale transaction and thereafter no claims will be considered.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

The Residential Property bearing No. 36, Old Property No. 28, Situated at Naganathapura Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Presently coming Under BBMP limits, BBMP Singasandra ward No. 191, measuring East to West 40 feet, North to South 30 Feet, total 1200 Sq. Feet. and bounded on: East by : Road, West by: Private Property, North by : Site No. 35, South by : Site No.37.

MANJUNATHA & ASSOCIATES
K. N. MANJUNATHA CHARY, ROOPA. B, &
B.N. JAGADISH KUMAR, Advocates,
96, 1 Floor, 1 Main, 4 Cross,
Maruthi Nagar, Madiwala, Bangalore-560068
Mob: 9845965626, 7406090832
BANGALORE, DATE : 15-11-2022

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the general public that our client **Mrs. Raja Indira Nagarajan W/o. Mr. Jayakumar Natarajan & Mr. Jayakumar Natarajan S/o. Mr. S Natarajan** are intending to purchase the schedule property mentioned hereunder from **M/s. Esteem Xen Shelters Private Limited** having its registered office at, No.33, 3rd Floor, SNS Chambers, No.239, Sankey Road, Sadashivanagar, Bangalore -560080. Any person/s objecting for the proposed purchase or are having any right, title, interest or any type of claim over the scheduled property is hereby called upon to file their objections/claims what so ever along with documentary proof within **7 days** from the date of publication of this notice with the under mentioned advocate, failing which our client shall proceed and complete the sale transaction with the above stated person.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the Plot bearing **No. 72,** being part of the Layout known as **Esteem Aeropark** formed in Sy.No. 20/3 measuring 35 guntas, Sy.No. 20/4, measuring 5 ½ guntas, Sy. No. 21 measuring 1 acre 10 guntas, Sy.No. 47/2 measuring 19 guntas, Sy.No. 47/2 measuring 2 acre 13 guntas, Sy. No. 47/3 and 47/4 together measuring 1 acre, Sy.No. 49/1 measuring 25 guntas, Sy.No. 49/2 measuring 30 guntas and Sy.No. 50/6 measuring 08 guntas, in all measuring about 30907.43 square meters, situated at **Muthugadahalli Village, Jala-1 Hobli, Yelahanka Taluk, Bangalore North (Additional) Taluk** and admeasuring 241.46 Square Meters, having Katha No. 849/72, Property ID No. 150200200900520253 of Doddajala Panchayat and bounded on :

The East by : 12M Wide Road; The West by : Portion of Plot No. 63 & Plot No. 62; The North by : Plot Bearing No. 71; The South by : Plot Bearing No. 73;

C.K.V.K. LAW ASSOCIATES
Mr. VENKATESH CHANDRAN M.A., L.L.B.
Advocates & Legal Consultants
Bangalore-560043. M : 9845846428, 7204863700, 8553787758

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client SMT. ULAGANAYAKI R W/o. Sri. S. Radha his intending to purchase of the schedule property mentioned hereunder for a valuable consideration with its owners Sri. Kaveri @ Kaverappa S/o. Sri. Munihanumaiah, and his children Sri. Nandeesh and Kumari. Nanditha all are residing at Kasavanahalli Village, Carmelaram Post, Bangalore- 560 035.

If any persons, banks, financial intuitions etc., having any claims, right, title and interest whatsoever over the schedule property may forward their objections to the undersigned in writing with supporting documents of your such claims, within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. Failing which it will be deemed that there are no claims, right, title and interest by anybody and my client will proceed for completion of sale transaction and thereafter no claims will be considered.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the residential Apartment bearing Flat No. 201, measuring 1158 Sq. Ft. of SBA in the Second Floor of the apartment Building "OCEANUS VISTA" with One covered car parking area along with 624 Sq. feet UDS, Tower-4 in the Land bearing Old Sy. No. 9/2, New Sy. No. 9/7, situated at Kasavanahalli Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk and bounded on:

East by : Portion of Sy. No. 9/2 of Muniraju,
West by : Portion of Sy. No. 9/2 of P. Muniyappa, North by : Land in Sy. No. 8 of Anitha Prakash Reddy,
South by : Lands in Sy. No. 18 of Renwick Angeio Mascarenhas

MANJUNATHA & ASSOCIATES
K. N. MANJUNATHA CHARY, ROOPA. B, & B.N. JAGADISH KUMAR, Advocates,
96, 1st Floor, 1st Main, 4th Cross,
Maruthi Nagar, Madiwala, Bangalore-560068
Mob: 9845965626, 7406090832
BANGALORE, DATE : 17-11-2022

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Rajesh Vivekanandham S/o Vivekanandham Muthuraman, residing at E606 Purva Fountain Square, Marathahalli, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560037, changed the name of minor Daughter Riyanshi Majumdar Rajesh aged 7 years and she shall hereafter be known as Riyanshi Rajesh for all purposes in future.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, M Sadashiva Rao, aged about 72 years, son of late P. Rama Rao, residing at 'Karthik Nivas', Yelluru village and Post, Kaup taluk, Udupi District, Karnataka, having now come to Udupi, do hereby solemnly affirm and state on oath as follows: 1)I say that I am the deponent herein. 2)I say that in my wife's Aadhaar card, Transfer Certificate name has been mentioned as Tulasi Bai H and in my pension certificate my wife's name is mentioned as Tulasi S.Rao instead of Tulasi Bai H. 3)I say that my wife's correct name is Tulasi Bai H. 4) I say that I am swearing to this affidavit to produce it before the office of Chief CDA(Pension) Allahabad.

TENDERS

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KERALA STATE HANDLOOM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD,
PM32/249, Thilleri Road,
Kannur – 670001, Kerala. Ph: 0497 2706776,
E-mail – hanveev@gmail.com
E-TENDER NOTICE
1. E-Tender for Supply of Packing Materials - Tender ID 2022_HDCL_527836_1 (Last Date 02.12.2022)
2. E-Tender for Transportation of Handloom Fabrics – Tender ID 2022_HDCL_526716_1 (Last Date 02.12.2022)
3. E-Tender for Processing of Handloom Fabrics – Tender ID 2022_HDCL_525102_1 (Last Date 29.11.2022)

Assistant Regional Manager-Production
For details visit
www.etenders.kerala.gov.in

REAL ESTATE

FOR SALE Luxury 3 BHK Apartments @ Banashankari 2nd Stage near BDA Complex (possession by Jan 2023 Rate 2.1Cr & 2.4 cr) Brokers excuse call 9741868566

LEGAL NOTICE

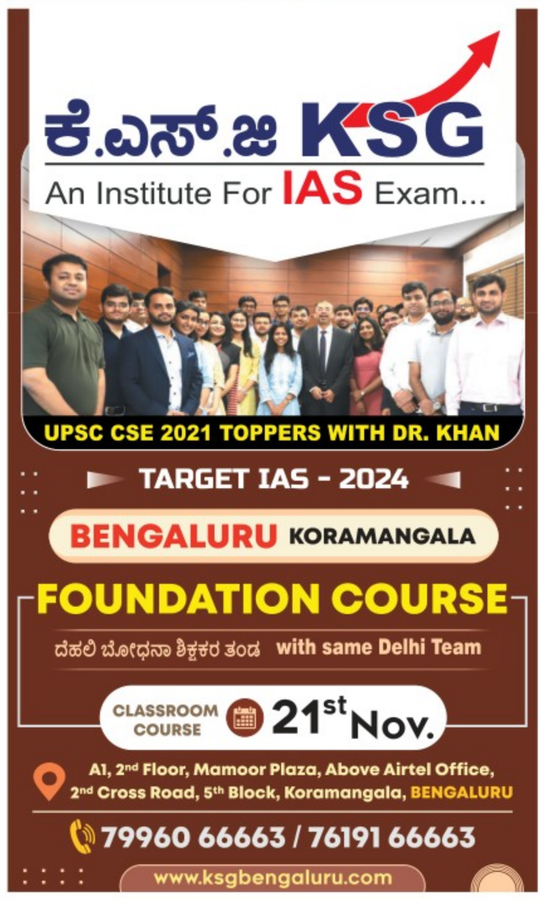
IN THE COURT OF THE 73rd ADDL. CITY CIVIL JUDGE MAYOHALL UNIT AT BANGALORE (CCH-74)
O.S. NO. 25976/2022
Between
ICICI Bank Limited, Having its Registered office at Land Mark, Race Course Circle, Vadodara - 390 007 and having its Corporate office at ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai - 400 051 and its branch office at Mystree Centre, 4/10, Hosur Road, Bommanahalli, Bangalore - 560 068 Represented by its POA Holder Sri. Pramodh Gurumallappa ...Plaintiff
And
Sri. M. Narayanan & Another ...Defendants
SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT NO. 1 & 2
To,
D1. Sri. M. Narayanan, S/o. Sri. Munuswamy, Aged about 66 years, No. 4, 4th Cross, Near Om Shakti Temple, Seethamma Layout, Kammanahalli, Bangalore North, Bangalore- 560 033
D2. Sri. Vijay Kumar, S/o. Sri. Narayanan, Aged about 35 years, No. 1709/1, 2nd B Cross, Arogyamma Layout, Near Soverigen School, K G Halli, Venkateshpura, Bangalore North, Arabic College, Bangalore- 560 045
WHEREAS the Plaintiff has instituted above said suit against you for recovery of Rs. 15,33,670/- (Rupees Fifteen Lakh Thirty Three Thousand Six Hundred Seventy Only) together with interest @ 24% p.a., cost of the suit and to grant such other or further order relief. The above mentioned Defendant No. 1 & 2 hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble 73rd Additional City Civil & Sessions Judge (CCH-74) in person or through a Counsel who can able to answer the claim made against you on 16-12-2022 at 11:00 a.m. failing which the suit is heard and disposed ex-parte.
Given under my hand and the seal of the Hon'ble Court on this 08/11/2022.
BY ORDER OF THE HON'BLE COURT
DEPUTY REGISTRAR,
CITY CIVIL COURT,
MAYOHALL UNIT,
BANGALORE
ADVOCATE FOR PLAINTIFF
S.A. Associates,
No. 10, 7th Cross, Victoria Layout, Bangalore- 560 047

EDUCATIONAL

GENERAL

LEGAL NOTICE

BEFORE THE MOTOR ACCIDENT CLAIMS TRIBUNAL, BENGALURU (SCCH-18)
M.V.C. No. 557/2022
PETITIONER/S : SMT SHARADA .B, W/o Nagarajappa.B, aged about 51 years Since deceased by LRs.
1(a) SRI. NAGARAJAPPA .B, Aged about 59 years
1(b) SRI. AVINASH .N, S/o. Nagarajappa .B
1(c) SMT. ANUSHA .N, D/o Late Basavarajappa. Aged about 26 years,
All are r/at No.5, [Old No.24/1] 30th Cross, Abbayappa Reddy Layout, Behind Inchara Hotel, J.P. Nagara 6th Phase, BENGALURU - 560 078. ...RESPONDENT/S
v/s
RESPONDENT/S : 1. SMT. THAYAMMA W/o Jagadish, Aged about 39 years, No.35, 1st Cross, 1st Main, Veerabhadranagar, 100 ft Rd, BSK 3rd Stage, Bengaluru-560085.
(Owner of TATA SUPER ACE No. KA-51-B-7434)
2. RELIANCE GENERAL INSURANCE CO. LTD., Regional Office No.28, 5th Floor, Centenary Building, M.G. Road, Bengaluru-560001 R/by the Regional Manager [Insurer of TATA SUPER ACE NO.KA-51-B-7434]
[P No. 140522123340010046 Valid from 01-04-21 to 31-3-22]
SUMMONS / NOTICE TO THE RESPONDENT NO.1
WHEREAS the petitioners have instituted the above petition against the Respondents for seeking award of compensation of Rs.16,00,000=00. We are hereby summoned to appear in this court in person, or by a pleader duly instructed, and able to answer all material questions relating to the claim petition or who shall be accompanied by some person able to answer all such questions, **on the 28th day of December 2022 at 11 O'clock** forenoon to answer the claim.
Take notice that, in default of your appearance on the day herein above mentioned, the suit will be heard and disposed off ex-parte.
Given under my hand and the seal of the Court, this 15th day of November 2022.
By order of the Court,
Assistant Registrar,
Court of Small Causes, Bangalore.
Advocate for Petitioners :
MAHESHRAJ, Advocate
No. 322, III Floor, 2nd Main Road, K.S. Building, Gandhinagar, Bengaluru - 560 009.



GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
DIRECTORATE OF CHILD PROTECTION
3rd Floor, Vishweshwaraiah Mini Tower, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bengaluru-560001.
Phone No: 080-22867383 e-mail: icps.kar@gmail.com

No:DCP/CP/JJB-CWC-74/2022-23 Date:17.11.2022

NOTIFICATION

IN THE STATE OF KARNATAKA APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED AS PER JUVENILE JUSTICE (CARE AND PROTECTION OF CHILDREN) ACT, 2021 AND MODEL RULES, 2022 FOR THE SELECTION OF CHAIRPERSONS AND MEMBERS OF CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEES AND SOCIAL WORKER MEMBERS OF JUVENILE JUSTICE BOARD

The Directorate of Child Protection have received applications as per the Notification dated: 13.10.2020, 30.01.2021 and 14.07.2022 for the selection of Chairpersons and Members of Child Welfare Committee and Social Worker Members of Juvenile Justice Boards.

Government of India have amended the existing Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 and Model Rules, 2016 which is in effect from 01.09.2022 Hence application are invited from eligible candidate as per the amended Act and Rules. The **applicants who have already submitted the application for the above post need not re-apply**.

Name of the position	Tenure	Eligibility Criteria
Chairperson / Member of the Child Welfare Committee	3 years	**As per section 27 Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2021 and Rules 15(3) of the Model Rules, 2022** The applicant shall be above the age of 35 years and not more than 65 years on the last date of submission of the application. and shall have a degree in child psychology or psychiatry or law or social work or sociology or human health or education or human development or special education for differently abled children and has been actively involved in health education or welfare activities pertaining to children for 7 years Or The applicant should be a practicing professional with a degree on the above said subject.
Social Worker Members for the Juvenile Justice Board	3 years	***As per Section 4 of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2021 & Rule 4 of the Model Rules, 2022*** The applicant shall be above the age of 35 years and not more than 65 years on the last date of submission of the application. and shall have at least 7 years of experience working. with children in the field of education, health or welfare activities, or and should be a practicing professional with a degree in child psychology or psychiatry or sociology or in the field of law.

The applicants may send their applications in the prescribed format personally or by registered post from **18.11.2022 to 03.12.2022 on or before 5.30 p.m** to Director, Directorate of Child Protection and Member Secretary State Level Selection Committee 3rd Floor, Vishveswaraiah Mini Tower, Dr. B.R Ambedkar Veedhi, Bengaluru-560001

Note :
1, Selection of Chairperson/members for child welfare committee and social worker members for Juvenile Justice Board will be as per the amended **Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2021 and Model Rules, 2022**
2. The applicant who have worked as member in child welfare committee can all so apply.
3. The prescribed application form for juvenile justice Board and child welfare committee is available in all districts District child protection unit and also available in Directorate of child protection website.
4. Incomplete applications or those received after due date shall not be entertained.
5. The Director, Directorate of Child Protection & Member Secretary State Level Selection Committee reserve the right to reject any or all applications without assigning any reason.
6. Applicants shortlisted for the interview will be intimated with scheduled interview date and also the list will be uploaded in the. Directorate website.
7. Applicant to contact Director, Directorate of Child Protection,' Ph no:080- 228673833 (e-mail-icps.kar@gmail.com) district child protection officer, district child protection unit, of concerned districts. Details are available in the Directorate website **www.icps.karnataka.gov.in**
8. The Directorate of Child Protection is not responsible for any information published by any other private web portal/carrier portal or any other media.

Sd/- Director
Directorate of Child Protection and
Member Secretary, State Level Selection Committee,
Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/JA/3134/2022-23

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Contracts for exports of about 35 lakh tonnes of sugar so far

35 lakh tonnes, is the amount of sugar that India has agreed to export so far in the ongoing 2022-23 season. Of that amount, 2,00,000 tonnes have been shipped last month, industry body ISMA said on Thursday. The 2022-23 sugar export policy announced on November 5 allowed exports of 60 lakh tonnes of the sweetener on a quota-basis till May 31. PTI

Electoral bonds worth more than ₹10,000 crore sold since 2018

10,246 In ₹ crore, the worth of electoral bonds sold by the State Bank of India (SBI) in 21 tranches since the instrument was launched in March 2018. Electoral bonds have been pitched as an alternative to cash donations made to political parties as part of efforts to bring transparency to political funding. PTI

Younger victims prone to drug and alcohol abuse in India

13 The percentage of people involved in substance abuse in India who are below 20 years, according to a UN official. Children face increased risk of drug and alcohol abuse due to their poor mental and physical health resulting from abuse against them, Billy Batware, Programme Officer of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), said at a international forum. PTI

Rise in tea exports in the first eight months of this year

14.8 In percentage, the rise in tea exports to 140.28 million kilograms (mkgs) in the first eight months of the 2022 calendar year, according to Tea Board data. Tea shipments during the January-August period in 2021 stood at 122.18 million kilograms. The CIS countries, including Russia, Ukraine and Kazakhstan, remain the largest importers of Indian tea. PTI

The European Union to fund climate adaptation in Africa

1 In € billion, the amount to be provided by the European Union and the four member countries for climate adaptation in Africa, EU climate policy chief Frans Timmermans told the COP27 summit in Sharm El-Sheikh. Timmermans also said that the EU will provide 60 million euros for loss and damage and will present ideas on how to take loss and damage negotiations forward. Reuters

IN THE LIMELIGHT

The endless fascination for the genre of stop-motion

The modern-day animation industry, despite benefitting from looking back, is yet to accept some undeniably vital arguments as to why incorporating stop-motion techniques is relevant

Bhuvanesh Chandar

When special effects artist Steve 'Spaz' Williams was digitally creating a T-Rex for Steven Spielberg's *Jurassic Park*, stop-motion filmmaking was still evolving. Spielberg's film, as shown in one of the episodes of Netflix's *The Movies That Made Us*, branched a new norm of filmmaking in which animatronics, miniatures, and stop-motion techniques were used only to supplement digital creations.

Stop-motion, having been reduced to just a subgenre of filmmaking, found a niche and a home with the help of production houses such as Aardman Animations (who made it to mainstream cinema with the help of Spielberg's DreamWorks banner) and Will Vinton Productions (which later became Laika, a major player in animation). Thanks to these production houses and filmmakers like Henry Selick, stop-motion continues to scale the graph, with creators having attained the absolute heights of realistic designs and movements through CGI, but with an eye on the past.

A poster of *The Lego movie*.SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The stop-motion effect

There's a spectacular irony here. For decades until the late nineties, animation moved with a quest for realism. Filmmakers strived to introduce motion blur to their stop-motion creations to make them look real. The transitions and cuts had to be realistic as well, and experiments with claymation (stop-motion with the use of plasticine clay) like in Will Vinton's earlier short films, were the closest that they could get to transitions. And now, due to reasons like the consumer-driven interest in authenticity and craftsmanship, filmmakers want their CGI-driven projects to have the 'stop-motion effect'. *The Lego Movie*, for instance, had the makers bring together real Lego sets and digitally-constructed sets to give that jerky effect. The fascination for finding fingerprints and the reason for the frame rate not going above 30 FPS – apart from the enormous effort higher frame rate demands in stop-motion – is a result of the same. Interestingly, stop-motion also seems to be the immediate resort for filmmakers like Spielberg who are wary of the 'uncanny valley' phenomenon, which refers to the unsettling feeling that arises when a computer-generated figure is too humanlike.

The modern-day animation industry, despite benefitting from looking back, is yet to accept some undeniably vital arguments as to why incorporating stop-motion techniques is relevant. In the earlier days of stop-motion, the medium influenced the form. Filmmakers had to work around the inherent limitations of stop-motion. For instance, to solve the issue of motion blur and to avoid continuity errors between frames, figurines had to be designed in a specific way. In Aardman's *Wallace and Gromit* series, Wallace has no hair. Gromit the dog, and Shaun the sheep have smoothened fur. So was the case in Henry Selick's *James and the Giant Peach*. The minimal facial features weren't just to appeal to children. Music had to overemphasise drama to make up for the alleged artificiality. Such quick fixes eased things up in an already strenuous filmmaking process.

The nature of the medium, at times, even affected the narrative. For instance, in Will Vinton's Oscar-winning short film *Closed Mondays* (1974), the lead character was conceived as a drunk old man since Vinton hadn't figured out a way for the plasticine models to hold a pose steadily for long. But in the post-CGI era, anything could be done. *Brave*'s Princess Merida has gorgeous hair. The *Shaun the Sheep* Movie, a spin-off of *Wallace and Gromit*, has characters with distinguishable fur. Films like *Coraline* and *Kubo and The Two Strings* effectively combine CGI and stop-motion to bring spectacular results. Yet, most of the characters in these CGI-influenced films seem a little...too perfect. And this is more to do with the changes in the way some storytellers are now tuned to think.

The CGI influx

Since it's now possible to create anything to near perfection, funny-looking clay-made characters like Wallace or Gumby (from Art Clokey's popular franchise) may become rare. This doesn't by any means point toward a lack of innovation and creativity, but that the emphasis now is more on making the characters look cool and the special effects unique. As Vinton, a pioneer who coined the term claymation said, "It was more about the character and less about the 'clay' back then." Moreover, if one could create anything out of a computer, why would one create a *Closed Mondays*, which is about a drunk old man's experience at a bizarre museum? Probe a little more and you would turn towards the audience. Would you like to watch a film about a drunk man visiting a museum?

While technology has opened up a world of possibilities, it has also widened creative benchmarks. Further, production houses are rightfully not interested to invest so much in smaller experiments that may not have an audience. It's futile to look at this as a purist's defence against technology. Even the great Vinton was in awe of what technology could do, and he would agree that the Moon Beast in *Kubo and the Two Strings* looks very cool. Stop-motion too is arguably in its best phase in some ways. It is true that, in the last two decades, almost six of the ten CGI-added stop-motion feature films from the West have come within the last seven years. And yet, films without CGI are still here and only growing.

The myth of the meticulous

Thanks to the Tim Burtons, Laikas, and Henry Selicks, stop-motion has a certain artistic aura, which many say relates to how real they feel. What exactly does Burton mean when he says, "There's an energy with stop-motion that you can't even describe. It's got to do with giving things life."? Writer James Clayton from Den of Geek believes that it has to do with how meticulous stop-motion filmmaking is: "I believe that the extra effort and control it entails ensures that the end result captures more of their character, psyche and essential inner essence," he writes.

Now, if this is far-fetched, the *Jurassic Park* animator Steve Williams – one who arguably started it all – says that listening to Bach during the then meticulous digital process might have played a role. Artists like Haruki Murakami have revealed that a meditative exhaustion helps channel their thoughts. Even if one discounts this as mere romanticisation, it is undeniable that it is that indescribable, mythical nature of art that has shaped all history. What CGI's infinite possibilities do is distance a visual artist from that feeling, which ultimately might make up for all the above-mentioned differences.

The audiences have started to acknowledge this too. Stop-motion has that rare quality of being able to pull audiences for just what it is. While it might be true that the medium or the behind-the-scenes should not influence the experience of storytelling, stop-motion seems to get a pass. People are ready to watch a stop-motion film more for the heavy in-hand labour it entails. These manifest in the internet as the fascination for claymation films with fingerprints on the figurines. Aside from films, stop-motion television continues to go strong.

Passion for classic puppet and clay animation still has a place, one that will never be closed on Mondays.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

"Sir, Mr. Gemmco Sundaram of Madras wants to know the difference between 'postpone' and 'adjourn'."

"Both mean 'to put off to another day, to defer'. 'Adjourn' is from Latin *ad* and *jurnus*, a day. 'Postpone' is also from Latin *post*, after and *ponars*, place.

The meeting was adjourned.

Parliament adjourned last week and will meet again after four weeks.

'Postpone' is used both in formal and informal contexts.

I have postponed my trip to Calcutta.

Why don't you postpone the meeting to next week?

'Adjourn' has another meaning besides the one I have already mentioned. It means 'to move to another place'.

After dinner, they adjourned to the lawn.

'Postpone' does not have this meaning. You can postpone your trip but you cannot postpone to another room. 'Postpone' also means 'to place after in order of importance'.

You must postpone private profit to the public welfare.

It means you must subordinate your private interests to the public welfare. In other words, your interests should occupy a subordinate position. The word 'adjourn' is not used in this sense at all."

"Mr. N. Malikarjunan of Madras wants to know the meaning of the expression 'Monday through Friday', sir."

"We were there from 'Monday through Friday' means that we were there for five days. In this expression, Friday is included. This is American. It is beginning to be used in Britain also. When you say 'Monday to Friday' it is not clear whether Friday is included. If Friday is included, you add 'inclusive of Friday'. This addition is not necessary when you say 'Monday through Friday' "

"Mr. R. Ramasubramanian of Coimbatore wants to know the meaning of 'He had to eat his own humble pie', sir."

"Occasionally you argue vigorously with someone to prove that your view of something or somebody is absolutely correct. Later when you are proved wrong you feel bad. Sometimes you have to make an abject apology. On such occasions, others say that you had to 'eat humble pie'.

Yesterday he tried to prove that I was in the wrong. Finally he had to eat humble pie.

'Humble pie' originally was a meat pie made of the inferior parts of a deer and this was served to servants while the nobles ate the best flesh. Don't say 'He had to eat his own humble pie'. Cut out 'his own'. He had to eat humble pie. Well, let's stop here. Goodbye.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

Morocco celebrates its Independence/National Day on November 18. A quiz on the westernmost country in the Maghreb region of North Africa

V. V. Ramanan

QUESTION 1
Simple one to begin with. What is the Capital and currency of Morocco?

QUESTION 2
The largest city in the country is known to many of us because of a Hollywood Classic starring Ingrid Bergman and Humphrey Bogart. Name the city.

QUESTION 3
In 1912, which two European nations divided the country into respective protectorates before protests against colonial rule saw Morocco reunify and regain independence in 1956?

QUESTION 4
Also called a tarboosh, which distinct cylindrical headdress, usually red, gets its popular name from a Moroccan city where the dye to colour the hat was extracted?

QUESTION 5
The Moroccan flag has a red field with which geometrical symbol in the middle of it?

QUESTION 6
Which famous Moroccan city is called the 'Red City' as a government rule says that all prominent buildings in the city limits should be red?

QUESTION 7
What is common to Shanghai, Dubai, Chicago, and Bordeaux among other cities with respect to a famous city in Morocco?

Visual question:
Name this legendary two-time Olympic champion who still holds the world records for the 1,500m and the outdoor mile. GETTY IMAGES

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. This seaway between Canada and the U.S. permits travel from the Atlantic Ocean to the Great Lakes of North America. **Ans: St. Lawrence Seaway**
2. This route was replaced by the Panama Canal and this was a major point on the route. **Ans: Clipper route and Cape Horn**
3. This canal used forced labour of gulag inmates. A 1934 historical volume detailing the same was compiled by this person. **Ans: White Sea-Baltic Canal, Maxim Gorky**
4. This canal was the focus of the 'The Von Papen Plot'. **Ans: Welland Canal which connects Lake Ontario and Lake Erie**
5. This is the world's most frequented artificial waterway. **Ans: Kiel Canal; The Levensau High Bridge is the oldest bridge crossing the Kiel Canal**
Visual: This man won the Nobel Peace Prize. **Ans: Lester B. Pearson, for helping resolve the Suez Canal crisis**

Early Birds: Rutherson S| K. N. Viswanathan| Kiran Gadakar

Word of the day

Caustic:
harsh or corrosive in tone

Synonyms:
acrid, vitriolic, virulent, acerbic, bitter

Usage:
His caustic comments offended most of the superiors

Pronunciation: bit.ly/causticpro

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

After 14 years, Teppotsava to be held on Kempambudhi Kere

Teppotsava was part of Kadalekayi Parishe for centuries, but was discontinued for many years owing to the bad condition of lake, says MLA; the 16th century lake is said to be built by Kempe Gowda in honour of his family deity Kempamma

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

With partial rejuvenation of the historic Kempambudhi Kere and the lake filling up with water due to good rains this season, Teppotsava for Dodda Basavanna will be held on Monday, the day of Kadalekayi Parishe. The last teppotsava - when a beautified boat mantapam with the idol of Dodda Basavanna was let float on the lake - was held in 2008. It was then discontinued owing to the bad condition of the lake.

"Teppotsava was part of Kadalekayi Parishe for centuries, but was discontinued for many years owing to the bad condition of Kempambudhi Kere. The last time it was held was in 2008, but the lake has been partially rejuvenated and has water now. We are restarting the tradition this year and we are confident we can continue it from here on," said L.A. Ravi Subramanya, MLA, Basavanagudi.

After two years of being low-key, Kadalekayi Parishe is expected to attract a footfall of at least six lakh this time. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The 16th century lake, said to be built by Kempe Gowda in honour of his family deity Kempamma, has also been selected to be further developed under the 75 Amrit Sarovar Scheme of the Union government. "We will develop boating and other facilities in the lake shortly," the MLA said.

After two years of being low-key, this year, Kadalekayi Parishe is expected to attract a footfall of at least six lakh. With good rains, the groundnut crop has also been good in Bengaluru Rural, Ramanagaram, Kolar, Chickballapur and other districts surrounding the city, sources said.

The parishe this year will have more than 2,500 stalls and groundnut farmers from even Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh are setting up stalls this season.

The civic body is striving hard to make it a plastic free event. "We have tied up with several organisations to create awareness and distribute paper and cloth bags to vendors. We also appeal to the public to bring their own bags. We are also deploying marshals to enforce the ban," said Dharanendra Kumar, Executive Engineer, Basavanagudi, BBMP.

While the traditional parishe is on the last Monday of the Karthika month, November 21, this year, it will be inaugurated by Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Sunday evening, with a tulabhara of groundnuts and a Dodda Basavanna idol. "The groundnut stalls will start coming up by Friday itself as people will likely visit more during the weekend. We have advanced the inauguration to Sunday evening to avoid any inconvenience to devotees on Monday, when all the religious events, including teppotsava in the evening, will be held as per tradition," said Mr. Subramanya.

Job scam: ED searches 16 locations

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Officials of the Directorate of Enforcement (ED) on Monday conducted search at 16 locations in Bengaluru in a case related to Super Like Online Earning Application (a part-time job scam).

During the search proceedings, around 80 bank accounts having balance of ₹1 crore belonging to the accused persons were freezed by the ED.

The searches were conducted on the residential premises of the accused and also on the offices of the payment gateways including Phonepe, Paytm, Googlepay, Amazonpay. The officials suspect that a few banks like HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, Dhanalakshmi Bank and others were involved in this case and their role is being probed.

The ED initiated money laundering investigation on the basis of an FIR registered in March last year against Super Like Online Earning Application and others.

INBRIEF

CM constitutes panel to study bus shelter design

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Thursday said that a committee of experts would examine the bus shelter design in Mysuru which has led to war of words between Pratap Simha, MP, and S.A. Ramdas, MLA, and the government would take action as per its opinion.

He said more than knowing reasons for the difference of opinion between the two leaders, the government is interested in taking action as per the opinion of the experts committee.

The design of the bus shelter incorporated domes and Mr. Simha wanted it to be demolished on the grounds that it resembled a mosque. Mr. Ramdas wanted an expert committee to inspect the bus shelter and said he would bear the cost of construction and demolition if there were design flaws in the structure.

Text & Context
A weekday feature on *The Hindu* epaper (epaper.thehindu.com) carries explainers, special articles and a quiz. In the latest issue (November 18, Friday), the following explainer is available:

- Toolbox | Browser extensions to supercharge your productivity
  bit.ly/browsersproductrise

You can use your smartphone's inbuilt features to access this article. If it's an Android phone, use Google Lens to read and tap the url to access the article. If it's an iPhone, use Live Text on camera to do the same.

Civic amenities in layout: House panel directs UDD to arrive at a consensus

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Committee on Petition of Karnataka Legislature has directed the Additional Chief Secretary of Urban Development Department (UDD) Rakesh Singh to arrive at a consensus on which agency should implement projects related to civic amenities in Bandemutt KHB Layout.

For years, property owners of the layout have been suffering because of the tussle between Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) and Karnataka Housing Board (KHB). Both the agencies have been shying away from the responsibilities of implementing infrastructure projects in the layout.

On Thursday, the committee held a hearing on issues faced by the property owners in Bandemutt KHB colony and Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout. With regard to Bandemutt KHB colony, BBMP Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath told the committee that it requires ₹10 crore to take up the civic amenities works, however the KHB which had formed the layout has provided ₹2 crore.

Property owners have been suffering because of the tussle between Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike and Karnataka Housing Board

The secretary of the Housing Department Ravishankar said that since 2016, the BBMP has been giving planning sanction for constructions inside the layout and collecting related taxes. He said that the BBMP has collected ₹6 crore as tax so far and will continue to collect the taxes in coming days as well. He said that considering these aspects, the BBMP should own the responsibility and take up the projects.

It is said that in a meeting headed by Housing Minister V. Somanna, it was decided that the BBMP will take up the project and the KHB handed over ₹2 crore. However, after a reality check by the BBMP officials, they took objection that ₹2 crore was not sufficient for the project.

The chairman of the committee S. Suresh Kumar said, "It is the property owners who are suffering in the tussle between two agencies. Considering this, the committee has directed the Additional Chief Secretary to resolve the issue and come up with plans on execution of civic amenities work before next June. The committee has set 10-day deadline to comply with the direction."

General Secretary of the Bandemutt KHB colony residents' welfare association Satheesh Bandemutt said that the layout was formed over 20 years ago but civic amenities works were not implemented for the benefit of the residents. He added that the layout lacks a park, proper walking path and other amenities. He also brought to the notice of the committee that land reserved for parks were being used for other purposes by private people.

Acquisition of land
With regard to issues faced by the Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout, BDA Commissioner G. Kumar Naik informed the committee that pending land acquisition in the layout will be done on the lines of Shivaram Karanth Layout where land acquisition is being monitored on a regular basis. The Commissioner said that a dedicated team of officials will be formed and every week, the committee will be apprised of pending land acquisition of 1,400 acres of land in Kempegowda Layout.

The Chairman said, "The BDA Commissioner has agreed to the fact that there has been inordinate delay in acquisition of the pending land. He said that he will monitor the acquisition process on a weekly basis and submit the report to the committee fortnightly".

Awareness week

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

KIOCL Ltd. observed vigilance awareness week on the theme 'Corruption-free India for a Developed Nation'. The valedictory programme was held on Wednesday at its Corporate Office. Police Commissioner C.H. Pratap Reddy was the chief guest at the event.

Perplexed by retired Lieutenant Colonel's three-decade battle to get back land from tenants: HC

FROM THE COURT

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has directed the tenants of agricultural lands belonging to an ex-serviceman to deliver back the possession of the lands to him within eight weeks while observing that woes that the 79-year-old retired lieutenant colonel has undergone for decades to get the lands back perplexes the court, to say the least.

"If a soldier who has protected the frontiers of the country for years whilst in service were to be treated this way in the evening of his life, what other defence personnel in service would think of, is left to the wild imagination of society," the court observed while noticing the spread of legal battle over 30 years.

Justice Krishna S. Dixit passed the order while dismissing petition filed by legal heirs of late Umar B. The petitioners had questioned the legality of the orders passed by the Bantwal taluk tahsildar in 2001 and the Assistant Commissioner, Mangaluru in 2012 resuming the tenanted lands to Lt. Col. Diwana Gopala Krishna Bhat (retd).

The court noted that the ex-serviceman's legal battle had commenced a couple of years prior to his retirement from the defence services in 1993.

There were multiple rounds of litigations between the legal heirs of the original tenant and the ex-serviceman from past 32 years before the land tribunal, revenue authorities and the High Court after he initiated process under Section 15 (Resumption of land by soldier or seaman who has created or continued tenancy) of the Karnataka Land Reforms Act, 1961, in 1990 to get back the tenanted land. He got his share of the lands from his father in 1974 through partition and continued the earlier tenancy till he sought resumption. The court rejected the contention of the petitioners that the ex-serviceman had no right to seek resumption of the tenanted lands as continuation of tenancy was not in writing after he got these lands to his share through partition.

Timings
BENGALURU

FRIDAY, NOV. 18	
RISE 06:19	SET 17:50
RISE 01:13	SET 13:54
SATURDAY, NOV. 19	
RISE 06:20	SET 17:50
RISE 02:01	SET 14:31
SUNDAY, NOV. 20	
RISE 06:20	SET 17:50
RISE 02:49	SET 15:09

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	32	22
Mysuru	30	19
Bengaluru	28	18

Bengaluru Today
27°C The weather will be dry. Day will be comfortable but humid. Night will be slight cool.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
28°C A dry weather to continue. Day will be comfortable but humid weather to prevail. Night will be cool.

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THE HINDU
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The grassland at Hesaraghatta. BHAGYA PRAKASH K.

Grassland or wasteland? The tussle over Hesaraghatta continues

While environmentalists have been batting for the grassland to be declared a conservation reserve, local shepherds and cattle herders fear the move would affect their livelihood

Hemanth C.S.
BENGALURU

The Hesaraghatta grassland is back on center stage following Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai's directive to the Forest Department to conduct public consultation before declaring the grassland a conservation reserve.

During a recent meeting of the Karnataka State Wildlife Board, Mr. Bommai, who is also the chairman of the board, said the local population should be taken into confidence before any decision is arrived at. He also asked the department to submit a report once the public consultation is over.

In 2021, the Forest Department placed a proposal before the State Board for Wildlife to declare 5,010 acres of grassland as a conservation reserve which was rejected by the board. It was alleged that an MLA from the ruling party had influenced the decision.

However, in July this year, the High Court directed the State Board for Wildlife to reconsider the proposal to declare the grassland as a conservation reserve. Since then, there have been volunteer meets and signature campaigns organised by activists and environmentalists who have been batting for the grassland to be declared a reserve.

Fear among shepherds and cattle herders

Locals fear the proposal would affect their livelihood. They say there are about 100-150 shepherds and cattle herders who graze their sheep and cows on the grassland. A few of them, who spoke to *The Hindu,* expressed their concerns over the move.

"We oppose conservation reserve plan as it will hamper our livelihood. The number of shepherds and local cattle herders has decreased over the last few years," said Chennappa, a cattle herder.

Venkatesh, another cattle herder, said earlier, there were more livestock, but many have sold them in the past few years and switched to other professions."

"We are being told that a wall would be built and we would not be allowed to enter the grassland. Our cattle have been grazing here for years now. They cannot expect us to go somewhere else," said Mr. Venkatesh. He added that as the Hesaraghatta lake has filled to the brim, a major portion of the grassland has been submerged under water and thus they are having difficulty in locating new spots for the cattle to graze on.

> Our cattle have been grazing here for years now. They cannot expect us to go somewhere else.
>
> **VENKATESH,** cattle herder

> Grasslands help in recharging the groundwater, and this definitely benefits local people.
>
> **T.V. RAMACHANDRA,** Centre for Ecological Sciences, IISc.

The Hesaraghatta lake is spread over 1,100 acres. Following heavy rains, the lake is full after more than three decades, said Ramesh Kumar M., a fisherman.

He added that even farmers in and around Hesaraghatta hold very small portions of land and have to depend on cattle rearing as an additional source of income.

"Most of these farmers own about 5 to 10 guntas of land; they are dependent on their livestock to supplement their income. Making the grassland out of bound will affect them in a big way. Besides, we don't know what will happen to us. Will we be able to enter the lake and fish like we do now? There are a lot of issues which some of these activists do not understand," Mr. Ramesh added.

Environmentalists dispel concerns

Those who are in favour of declaring Hesaraghatta grasslands as a conservation reserve dispel these fears and say falsehoods are being spread by vested interests.

"When you have conservation of an ecosystem, people will benefit as forests and grasslands are known to act as sponges. Grasslands help in recharging the groundwater and retain the rainwater in the catchment and this definitely benefits the local people," said Dr. T.V. Ramachandra of the Centre for Ecological Sciences, IISc.

He added that a conservation reserve would mean that there would be restrictions on building an industrial layout or a housing society, but no one would be deprived of any access to the region.

Siddharth Goenka, member of the State Wildlife Board, during a recent meeting, clarified that a conservation reserve will not deprive the locals of development. He listed out seven misconceptions and clarified them. He said a conservation reserve will not displace locals, local communities will have a say in managing the conservation reserve, there would be no buffer zone or eco-sensitive zone, new wildlife will not be introduced, local communities will not lose access to roads, livelihoods of fishermen and farmers would be secure, and communities are custodians of the conservation reserve.

He also stated that in case the State government is unable to declare the entire 5,010 acres as a conservation reserve – a smaller area of approximately 2,800 acres consisting of 345 acres of grassland, about 1,000 acres of scrub jungle that is adjacent and to the east of the grassland and the 1,500 acres of Hesaraghatta reservoir – could be considered for the proposed conservation reserve. "I would also like to record that constituting the Hesarghatta conservation reserve will not involve any expense for the state exchequer since it involves government land only," he stated.

Rare and endangered species

Hesaraghatta is home to several rare species like the Lesser florican (*Sypheotides indicus*), European roller (*Coracias garrulous*) among others. The lake and the surrounding grassland are home to over 150 species of birds, including migrant ducks and harriers. Nearly 10 species of amphibians have also been documented.

Venkatesh, Krishnappa and Vanita who reside near the grassland. BHAGYA PRAKASH K.

Hesaraghatta grasslands

Total area
5,010 acres

Grassland
345 acres

Scrubland
1,000 acres

Hesaraghatta lake
1,100 acres

Some of the rare and endangered wildlife seen in Hesaraghatta

Lesser florican *(Sypheotides indicus)* - Schedule 1 in the Wildlife Protection Act of 1972. Last spotted in Hesaraghatta in 2012 after over 100 years

European roller *(Coracias garrulous)* - a rare migrant bird listed as vulnerable by the International Union for Conservation of Nature

Lilac silverline *(Apharitis lilacinus)* - seen in Hesaraghatta after 100 years

Indian peafowl (*Pavo cristatus)* - the national bird of India

Research Institutions located in Hesaraghatta

Indian Horticulture Research Institute

ICAR Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture

Indo-Danish Poultry and Dairy Farms

Grass is indeed greener on the other side

GUEST COLUMN

Seshadri K.S.

Hesaraghatta, a large reservoir along the river Arkavathy, used to be an important source of water for Bengaluru. In the last couple of months, Hesaraghatta has made a comeback into public memory and discourse. With the incessant and unseasonal rainfall lashing across the State, the reservoir is now nearly full and the last time this occurred was in 1994.

It is no surprise that hundreds of people are thronging the place to catch a glimpse of this wonderful sight. Hesaraghatta is also in the news for another reason that has far greater implications for people living in the immediate vicinity as well as the city folk.

A bit of history

The quest to protect Hesaraghatta goes back several years. In early 2013, a proposal identified nearly 5,000 acres of government-owned lands to be declared as a conservation reserve.

The proposal, based on both field and satellite data, highlighted the biodiversity supported by these grasslands and the water body, while emphasising the benefits of ecosystem services and water security.

A conservation reserve was sought under the provisions of the Wildlife Protection Act because it enables government-owned land to be conserved while allowing legitimate user access. The rights continue to remain with legitimate users, and regulations are formed by a committee comprising the local representatives and the forest department. There would be no question of forced evictions or voluntary translocations of people.

How grasslands help

Grassland-savanna ecosystems are one of the common habitats across the country, and span nearly 10% of India's landscape. These ecosystems are not forested in the sense of having tall trees, and yet they are known to harbour some of the rarest forms of vegetation and provide several critical ecosystem functions.

Grasslands are incredibly effective in capturing atmospheric carbon and storing them in the soil, a process known as carbon sequestration. Despite the importance, the savanna-grassland ecosystems are conveniently painted as wastelands in policy documents. They are subsequently let to degrade or are converted to different land uses and parcelled off for infrastructure.

Ecosystem services and water security

How can a conservation reserve somewhere far away make our lives better? As a case in point, we have all experienced the consequences of rainfall and lack of city planning. The villagers surrounding the lake were spared from the wrath of floods largely because the lake was able to take in the excess runoff and hold it, slowly recharging wells and ensuring water security. Images of water overflowing from borewells were a common sight. By protecting the 5,000 acres of government-owned land, we would ensure that

Nearly 97 million litres of water per day can be stored and recharge our groundwater. This water will ensure the city has enough water, should we choose to restore the old water supply network.

The farmers around the lake would directly benefit from being able to grow water-intensive cash crops. Plus, we all would have fresh air to breathe and less carbon in the atmosphere.

Potential for bioresources

Hesaraghatta also holds immense potential for bioresources. In 1957, a tiny little insect named *Neodusmetia sangwani* was discovered in Hesaraghatta. In 1960, this tiny insect was successfully deployed to control the rampant Rhodesgrass Scale infestation in the United States. In one of the few cases of successful biocontrol, the scale infestation was reduced, and the golf and cattle ranch industry was saved upwards of $200 million/year that they would have otherwise spent on pest management using toxic chemicals.

Our myopic thirst for development will only result in short-term gains. Failure to protect the unique grasslands and the surrounding habitat comes at a future cost of having missed out on ecosystem services and water security for the entire city.

Can we afford to go on with double standards where we happily cheer the release of an exotic large cat in place of an extinct one and call it panacea for grassland conservation, while at the same time, we stop short of walking the talk and protect the last remaining natural tracts of grasslands around us?

(Dr. Seshadri K.S. is a faculty member at ATREE, Bengaluru. Views are personal.)

The creators of War and Peas, Brown Paperbag Comics, Bakarmax and more talk about the growth of the Indian webcomics scene as the stage is set for Bengaluru Comic Con

Comics network

Praveen Sudevan
praveen.s@thehindu.co.in

Laugh and think Brown Paperbag Comics; Happy Fluff Comics; *War and Peas*, and Bakarmax. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Akshara Ashok is excited. It has been over five years since she started Happy Fluff Comics, which talks about body positivity, sexual health, and mental health, through an adorably goofy character.

What began as an antidote to boredom in college has over 2 lakh followers on Instagram now. The page's success has allowed Akshara to practise her passion. Her followers don't merely like, share, and comment on her Instagram posts, they also give her commissioned works and buy her merchandise. They mean a lot to her. She, hence, regularly interacts with them on her page. But for the first time, she is going to meet them in person at Bengaluru Comic Con.

Akshara apart, Bengaluru Comic Con, which is returning after a two-year pandemic-induced hiatus, will see artists like Jonathan Kunz (co-creator of War and Peas webcomic), Sailesh Gopalan (creator of Brown Paperbag webcomic), Sumit Kumar (creator of Bakarmax, an animation and comics studio), and publishers like Amar Chitra Katha, Raj Comics, River Comics, and more. The two-day event also includes an 80,000 square-foot gaming arena that will host multiple tournaments and interactions with celebrity gaming content creators. Attendees can experience panels, workshops, and several performances over the two days.

The stars of the event, however, are comics. "We have a dedicated section at each show, where we invite creators and indie publishers each year as guests. We curate it each season to showcase upcoming talent. We aim to support the comic book community as much as possible and leverage our platform for fans to discover their work," says Jatin Varma, the founder of Comic Con India.

> ***We see more and more webcomic artists these days. But the growth has been gradual; not explosive***
>
> **SUMIT KUMAR,** BAKARMAX

Advice for aspiring artists

JONATHAN KUNZ,
War and Peas:
Get a part-time job that pays the bills. When you are starting, you need to be reassured and don't feel pressured all the time. When you see your work is being picked up, you will still have every chance to jump in the cold water.

AKSHARA ASHOK,
Happy Fluff Comics: Not having a regular paycheck can be a cause for concern. It is the case with every freelancer or any independent creator. But once your project takes off and you learn how to manage your finances, you will feel some stability.

SAILESH GOPALAN,
Brown Paperbag Comics:
Draw, draw, draw! A lot of people are looking for methods or shortcuts to popularity, but the substance is what carries an idea to success. Also, share your work with others, whenever you can.

A new breed of artists

Ever since the first Comic Con India was held 10 years ago, the comics scene has changed tremendously. The growth of social media platforms spawned a new breed of webcomic artists, who were largely absent around a decade ago.

Sumit, the creator of Bakarmax, was a part of the first Comic Con India. Comics in India, he reckons, were largely restricted to the print medium. "That is not the case anymore," he says. "We see more and more webcomic artists these days. But the growth has been gradual; not explosive."

Jonathan, the co-creator of War and Peas, says, "When [Elizabeth Pich and I] started our comics in 2011, there were a couple of other webcomic creators like us.

The scene was small and familial. Now, there are dozens of thousands of accounts. The potential of webcomics is unleashed and you can see new artists emerging every day."

Sailesh, one of Jonathan's favourite comic artists from India, agrees that webcomics are becoming an increasingly popular medium to tell stories and communicate ideas. "More than the popularity of it, I am intrigued by the various unique styles of webcomics, in both storytelling and art," he adds.

One of the reasons for this diversity is the minimal gatekeeping in the online space. Artists can talk about whatever they want with little restriction. Hence, they perhaps enjoy greater freedom on social media than traditional publishing houses in India.

However, is being a webcomics artist a stable career option in India?

Career in comics

Though Akshara has been an independent artist for the last few years now, she admits the uncertainty of not having a regular paycheck bothers her. "When I started, I used to compulsively post two comics a day.

Now, I try to work out a work-life balance and post whenever I can," she says, "But at the back of your head you always have that fear that you need to be consistent or people might stop following your work. Because there are tons of other artists out there."

The social media webcomic industry, Sailesh says, still operates on indirect revenue where you need to catch the attention of sponsors or collaborators who would wish to commission or partner with you. "In terms of self-publishing indie comics, there are a lot more social events where artists can promote and sell their work," he adds, "So, it's gradually becoming a potentially viable career. Some day, I hope to confidently say that it is."

Bengaluru Comic Con is on November 19 and 20 at the KTPO Trade Centre, Industrial Area, Whitefield.

A carnival for your furry friend

Pet Fed, which offers a range of products and activities, will be held in the city this weekend

Team MetroPlus

When Akshay Gupta completed his education and was looking at various career options, he hit upon the idea of Pet Fed. Started in 2014, Pet Fed is a community for people with pets, Akshay says. "We realised that there were community platforms for arts, books and food, but nothing for pets and pet parents. Pet Fed was born as an all Indian community, where pet parents could interact with each other."

Akshay feels India is not a pet-friendly country. "Pets are not allowed in our restaurants and we decided to address these and other issues through the Pet Fed carnival."

Pet Fed, which also holds the Limca World Record as one of the biggest pet carnival, started in New Delhi and today has forayed into seven cities. In its third edition in Bengaluru, Pet Fed aims to propagate adopting rather than buying a pet and telling people to be non-discriminatory when it comes to adoption. "Anyone who walks in with an Indian breed of dog and cat, gets a free entry to the carnival. The pandemic had taken a toll on everyone, but many people turned to pets for companionship and comfort. Pet Fed's aim this year is to give back to our furry friends."

Pet's day out Pet parents make it special for their little ones and (below) the founder of Pet Fed, Akshay Gupta. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

There will be various adoption camps by NGOs, says Akshay. "Topics such as pet care, how much carbs a pet needs or how to cook nutritious food will also be addressed. There will be grooming sessions as well." Pet Fed is supported by actor and model Dino Morea. "He has an Indie pet and a Labrador. He came on board when we started, and has been supporting Pet Fed ever since."

Pet Fed is open to anyone who wants to understand the world of a pet and is keen to give them a home.

Spread across three acres, the carnival will include activities, such as police dog show, an international cat show and Pet's Got Talent are some of the other activities planned.

Pet Fed Carnival is on November 19, 20 at Jayamahal Palace Grounds. For details log on to www.petfed.org

STEPOUT

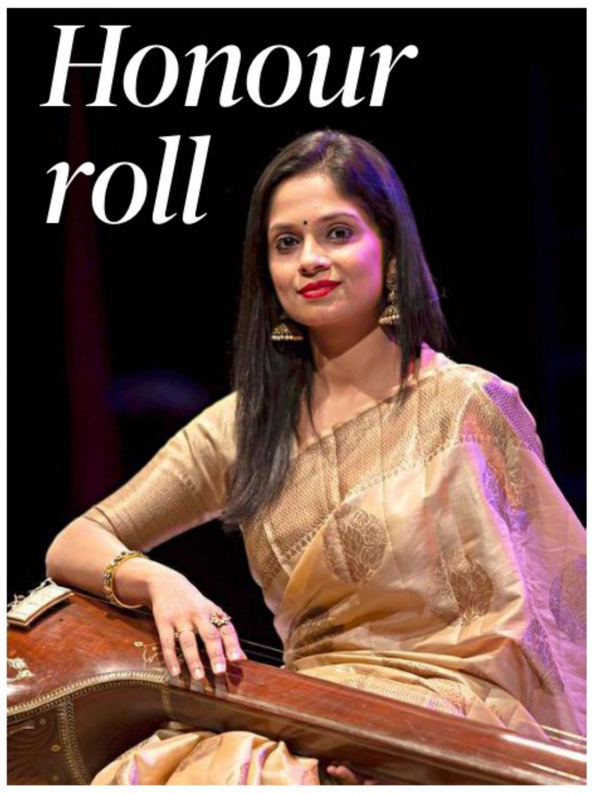
Rainbow santhe

Namma Pride and Karnataka Queer Habba, which is an annual festival celebrating the Queer community under the label of CSMR (Coalition of Sex Workers and Sexuality minority Rights), is organising its 6th edition of Kamanabillu Santhe. This year, the santhe will feature talents from across the arts and also include a flea market, with HIV tests and counselling sessions. *Kamanabillu Santhe will be held on November 19 between 11am and 8pm at The Bangalore Creative Circus (BLR).*

Honour roll

The Ganakalabhushana and Ganakalashree awards will be presented at the Karnataka Ganakala Parishat conference this year

Ranjani Govind



The ongoing Karnataka Ganakala Parishat's (KGKP) annual music conference not only has concerts by leading artistes, lec-dems, docu-features and tribute sessions, but also an award function on the concluding day. Ganakalabhushana in the senior music category will be conferred on vocalist and professor of music, Dr. RN Srilatha from Mysore, while the Ganakalashree in the younger musicians category will be bestowed on vocalist and former Director of Indian Music Experience museum, Manasi Prasad of Bengaluru.

"Where Karnataka Ganakala Parishat differs from others institutions is that the committee comprises musicians and the annual awardees selected by music scholars," says vocalist RK Padmanabha, the institution's president for the last 18 years.

The Ganakala Parishat's activities reaches out to rural pockets in the State with performances and workshop activities.

Ganakalabhushana for RN Srilatha

RN Srilatha, the first woman from the erudite Rudrapatnam family to have pursued Carnatic classical music in an academic manner, is passionate about the theory of music. She has authored more than 10 books covering various aspects of music. She also released a four-volume textbook covering junior, senior and *vidwat* portions, and translated the 18th Century Sanskrit work, *Sangeeta Saraamruta* by Tulaja Maharaja into Kannada.

Srilatha was formerly principal of the University College of Fine Arts, Mysore. "Accepting the esteemed Ganakalabhushana Award from KGKP is an honour to the Rudrapatnam family which includes Harikatha exponents, Sanskrit scholars, Mysore's royal court musicians and classical music performers," says the fourth-generation vocalist.

Stars in the firmament Dr. RN Srilatha (below), Manasi Prasad. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Guiding students and nurturing them to be concert ready is an art, she says.

One of her lec-dems during the event includes compositions that saint Tyagaraja created in rare *ragas* in Venkatamakhi's 72 Melakarta system. "Out of the hundreds of *ragas* that Tyagaraja has created and presented, I have discovered 85 in my study. Chandrajyoti, Ragapanjara and Sruti Ranjani are a few that will be discussed."

Ganakalashree Award for Manasi Prasad

Carnatic vocalist Manasi Prasad has performed in six continents across the world. The Sangeet Natak Akademi awardee is a disciple of *vidwan* RK Padmanbha, and has received guidance from Dr. Sriram Parasuram in Chennai. "I am humbled to be receiving the Ganakalashree from the Parishat. This is an organization of, by, and for musicians, and hence receiving this in the presence of senior musicians is special and a major part of this credit goes to my guru RK Padmanabha," says Manasi.

Apart from Manasi's concert, she would also be talking on the 'World of Pallavis,'elaborating on how one can choose to challenge oneself at various levels, both in the construction and rendition of the Pallavi.

(The Karnataka Ganakala Parishat Music Conference is on till November 20 at Pathi Auditorium, NR Colony Rama Mandira. For details log in to: https://www.kgkp.org)

INBRIEF

Bengaluru Science & Technology Cluster launched

The Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India, Ajay Sood, has launched the Bengaluru Science & Technology Cluster (BeST) at the Bengaluru Tech Summit 2022.

The conceptualisation of BeST is a collaborative effort of more than 50 organisations from Bangaluru, including major academic institutions, industry partners, start-ups, civil society organisations, and government bodies.

This effort was coordinated by the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) in partnership with the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Platforms.

Statue of Kannada Bhuvaneshwari unveiled

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Thursday unveiled the statue of Kannada Bhuvaneshwari on the premises of the Kannada Sahitya Parishat at Chamarajpet in Bengaluru.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Bommai underlined the need to recognise those who have served the cause of Kannada and honour them. He said that The Kannada Language Comprehensive Development Bill, 2022, would be passed in the Belagavi session of the legislature in December.

BEML showcasing its products at IMM Exhibition

BEML Ltd. a schedule 'A' company under the Ministry of Defence, is showcasing its products and services at indoor pavilion in International Mining and Machinery Exhibition (IMME) that commenced in Kolkata on Wednesday. It will be on till November 19. According to a BEML release, the BEML stall was inaugurated by Pramod Agarwal, chairman and managing director, Coal India Ltd., in the presence of Amit Banerjee, chairman and managing director of BEML, and other senior officials.

'Theft' of voter data: Cong. demands resignation of Bommai, judicial probe

People associated with NGO Chilume are alleged to have collected personal data from voters in Bengaluru presenting themselves as BLOs

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Senior Congress leaders Randeep Singh Surjewala, Siddaramaiah and D.K. Shivakumar on Thursday alleged the "40% commission sarkara" in Karnataka had now corrupted the election process by stealing voter data in Bengaluru through a private agency that was granted permission for house-to-house survey to create awareness on filing online applications via the voter helpline mobile app.

Agency representatives were found to be collecting personal data from voters during these visits by presenting themselves as booth-level officers (BLOs). On Wednesday, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) issued a statement that permission granted to the agency, Chilume Educational Cultural and Rural Development Institute, had been withdrawn "for breach of violating the conditions of the permission".

At a press conference here on Thursday, Congress leaders alleged that Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, the BJP government and its officials, the BBMP, and the election authority were together in this "trampling of democracy". It also implicated a connection between the NGO and Higher Education Minister C.N. Ashwath Narayan.

Strong demand: Congress leaders Randeep Singh Surjewala, D.K. Shivakumar, and Siddaramaiah at a press conference in Bengaluru on Thursday. PTI

> Fraud, impersonation, stealing voter data and conspiracy of Bommai - BBMP exposed 40% Commission Sarkara & its officials, BBMP & Election Authority are partners in crime in trampling democracy FIR must be lodged against CM Bommai & all others named in our statement.
>
> **A TWEET BY RANDEEP SINGH SURJEWALA,**
> AICC secretary

Complaints lodged

Congress demanded resignation of Mr. Bommai and a judicial probe into theft of voter data. Later in the day, the leaders filed a complaint with Bengaluru Police Commissioner C.H. Prathap Reddy on it and demanded that an FIR be immediately lodged against Mr. Bommai and all others involved in the process. BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath too lodged a police complaint against the agency on Thursday.

The Congress sought an investigation within a time limit of 30 days under direct supervision of the Chief Justice of Karnataka High Court. The BBMP Commissioner, who is also the election officer, was responsible for compromising the integrity of the process. The private entity, along with DAP Hombale Pvt. Ltd., and its officers and directors were responsible for the theft of voter data, Congress leaders claimed.

A Congress press statement said Chilume institute had applied for permission to conduct voter awareness drive of the election commission. The permission, initially granted for the Mahadevapura Assembly constituency, was later extended to all the 28 Assembly segments in Bengaluru through a Government Order on August 20, 2022. The private entity sought to do this voluminous exercise "free of cost".

Underlining alleged clash of interests, Congress leaders pointed out that Chilume also claims to be an election management company, working for EVM preparation etc. for political parties. Shockingly, it also offers "temporary polling personnel from virtually every branch of the government". The company runs a voter survey app called Digital Sameeksha. The company further claims that Digital Sameeksha app has a varied client base of political parties, MPs, MLAs, councillors and aspirants, Congress leaders pointed out.

On being granted permission, Chilume committed "a brazen fraud" of collecting voter data, by having privately hired employees impersonate government officers of Karnataka and issuing them BLO cards. This was done in cahoots with the BBMP and the election authority, Mr. Surjewala and KPCC leaders alleged.

Posing as officers, employees of the private entity collected voter data in the 28 Assembly constituencies, comprising information such as caste, religion, age, gender, mother tongue, marital status, Aadhar number, phone number, address, voter ID number, email address of voters, the Congress leaders alleged.

Data uploaded

It then uploaded vital voter information on the app owned by its sister concern, Chilume Enterprises Pvt. Ltd. The information was not uploaded on the election commission voter registration helpline 'Garuda' or 'Voter Helpline'. This was yet another fraud, they alleged.

The Opposition Congress also claimed that "proximity and connection" of Krishnappa Ravikumar, owner/director of the NGO, to Dr. Ashwath Narayan." The Minister was pictured celebrating the birthday of Mr. Ravikumar, it said. The office of Chilume is in the constituency Dr. Ashwath Narayan represents.

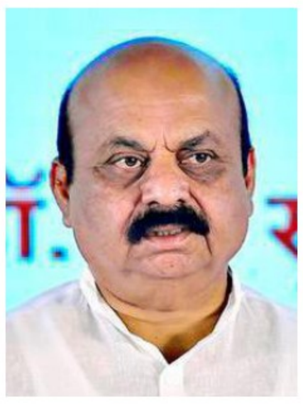
CEO orders inquiry; CM, Minister rubbish charges

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) of Karnataka Manoj Kumar Meena has written to the Regional Commissioner of Bengaluru to conduct a detailed inquiry into the alleged breach of privacy by an NGO while creating awareness on voter registration and submit a comprehensive report.

Mr. Meena in a letter on Thursday said that his office received a complaint on November 10 on WhatsApp where it was alleged that a private person used an identity card to impersonate the booth-level officer (BLO) in Mahadevapura Assembly constituency in the city. "With regard to the complaint, the electoral registration officer 174 – Mahadevapura Assembly constituency has reported that identity cards were issued to Chilume Educational, Cultural and Rural Development Trust to work as booth-level coordinating officers on January 29, 2022, based on the permission of the district election officer given to the said institution for coordinating with the BLOs and that the said institution had made photocopies of the ID cards and written BLO, June 9, 2022, on them," Mr. Meena said in his letter.

"With regard to the misuse of permission and the ID card, a case has been registered with Whitefield police on November 15, 2022," he added.



> Congress allegations only show the desperation of the party. This has happened at the lower level and bears no relation to the party or the government. There will be a suitable inquiry which will reveal the truth.
>
> **BASAVARAJ BOMMAI,**
> Chief Minister

'Bankruptcy of ideas'

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai had earlier in the day said that a comprehensive inquiry would be conducted into the allegations. However, he said that the Congress' allegation against him and the government of their involvement only showed their "bankruptcy of ideas". "The government is no way connected with it. If this has happened at a lower level, it will be inquired into and the guilty will be punished," the Chief Minister said.

Meanwhile, Higher Education Minister C.N. Ashwath Narayan said he would file a defamation case for connecting him with the NGO that is facing the allegation of collecting voter data by fraudulent means.

He said there was an effort by the Congress to malign him for the fear that his and his party's achievements would lead to the Opposition party's electoral debacle.

JD(S) may not name Hassan candidates during launch of its yatre today

Kumaraswamy is expected to announce the list of nominees for around 90 constituencies

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Janata Dal (Secular), which is expected to release its first list of candidates for the Assembly elections during the launch of its Pancharatna Yatre at Mulbagal on Friday, is unlikely to name its candidates in at least three constituencies in its stronghold of Hassan district. The party had won seven of the eight Assembly constituencies in the district in the 2018 elections.

Party leader and former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy is expected to announce the list of candidates for around 90 constituencies during the convention. The yatre that was earlier scheduled to start on November 1 had to be postponed due to rain. Among others, the former Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda and party State president C.M. Ibrahim will participate in the launch of the yatre.

Revanna factor

Party sources said the list would not contain the names of candidates for Arkalgud, Arsikere, and Hassan constituencies. Currently, Arkalgud and Arsikere are represented by A.T. Ramaswamy and K.T. Shivalinge Gowda, respectively, both from the JD (S). Though BJP member Preetham Gowda represents Hassan, the JD(S) has a strong base there and the seat was earlier represented by the party. Sources said that Mr. Ramaswamy is not inclined to contest despite assurances from party leaders while Mr. Shivalinge Gowda is not confident of winning due to caste combinations at play. "In Hassan, there is a strong pitch by H.D. Revanna's family to field his wife, Bhavani, against Mr. Preetham Gowda. However, the former legislator Prakash's son Swaroop has also evinced interest. There was a public war of words between the two factions recently."

According to sources, the names of candidates for these constituencies will be announced around the time the yatre reaches Hassan after completing the first leg around Bengaluru. Of about 90 candidates whose names will be released, JD(S) legislator for Mandya Srinivas is likely to be replaced due to the age factor. Meanwhile, the party will also not name its candidates for several constituencies in north and central Karnataka regions as it expects some leaders from other parties to migrate during the elections. These constituencies are in Belagavi, Dharwad, Uttara Kannada, Chitradurga, and in some Kalyana Karnataka districts.

Policy to encourage farmers to take up sandalwood cultivation

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State Cabinet on Thursday adopted the sandalwood policy that would liberate the marketing of sandalwood from government control and encourage farmers to take to sandalwood cultivation.

Briefing media persons after the Cabinet meeting, Health and Medical Education Minister K. Sudhakar said the new policy also envisages measures to provide protection to sandalwood farms. "We will use technology to provide protection to farms like installing microchips that can help detect theft," the Minister said. The main intention is to help increase the income of farmers, he said, while pointing out that there was a severe shortage of sandalwood in the State as well as the country. Karnataka is one of the major sandalwood growing regions in the country.

Transfer of spouses

The Cabinet also decided to bring about changes in the norms to allow inter-district transfer of spouses for 'C' and 'D' grade government employees after putting in certain years of service at a particular place. The Minister said different departments had prescribed their own minimum service period for the employees to become eligible for such transfers.

The Cabinet gave administrative clearance for upgrading 43 primary health centres into community health centres. Of them, upgrading of 38 PHCs would cost ₹397 crore, the Minister said.

It gave administrative approval for setting up a critical care hospital with a 100-bed capacity at the premises of the district hospital in Tumakuru at a cost of ₹56 crore under the PM-Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission, he said. The hospital was recently in the news for turning away a woman in labour, resulting in her death and also of the newborns.

New sanctuaries

The Minister said the Cabinet approved a proposal by the Karnataka State Wildlife Board to provide sanctuary status to Huture Gudda (wildlife), Bankapura (wildlife), Arsikere (bear sanctuary), Hiresulikere (bear sanctuary), and Chikkasangama, Mundigekere and Bonala (bird sanctuaries).

Winter session from Dec. 19

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The winter session of the State legislature will be held in Belagavi from December 19 to 30. A decision to this effect was taken at the State Cabinet meeting on Thursday.

Generally, the winter session used to be held before Christmas. However, the session is now being held in the middle of the Christmas season. The ongoing Jana Samparka Yatre of the ruling BJP is being attributed as the reason for the session being pushed till Christmas.

Cabinet decides to set up RGUHS in Ramanagaram

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

It is now clear that the Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences (RGUHS) will be established in Ramanagaram only as decided earlier.

The State Cabinet on Thursday decided to set up the university campus and a medical college at Archakarahalli of Ramanagaram.

Health and Medical Education Minister K. Sudhakar said: "Our government has expressed its commitment to set up the university in Ramanagaram through the Cabinet decision."

Varsity works

The works related to setting up the university would be taken up by the Engineering Division of the Health and Family Welfare Department, the Minister said.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

The following e-Tenders are published in IREPS website. Firms are requested to login to **http://www.ireps.gov.in-login>E.Tender-goods & services (new)** and quote against these tenders. Manual quotations will not be entertained for these tenders. Closing time for all tenders 14.30 hours.

Sl. No.	Tender No.	Description	Due Date
1	90226874	Supply of 2 Mbps Modems G.703 (E1)	15-12-2022
2	90226875	Supply of 2 Mbps G703/E1 toV.35 interface converters	15-12-2022
3	90226581	Brake Control System	13-12-2022

The following e-bid has been published in GeM website. Firms are requested to login to **www.gem.gov.in** and quote against the following e-bid. Manual quotations will not be entertained.

Sl. No.	Bid Number	Description	Due on
1	GEM/2022/B/2724663	Safety Footwear - BIS Specification-IS:15298 Part 2	25-11-2022
2	GEM/2022/B/2741638	XLPE Cable IS: 7098 (Part 1) - 2 Core x 70 Sq.mm	29-11-2022

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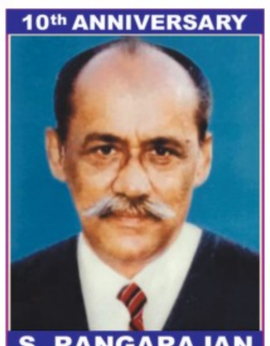
10th ANNIVERSARY



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'Political rivalry alone cannot be a ground to quash inquiry'

SC hears case concerning Amaravati land scam; Andhra Pradesh government approaches the top court against the State High Court's 'blanket stay' on an inquiry into the alleged scam

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

"Political rivalry" alone cannot be a ground for quashing an inquiry into allegations of corruption and misuse of public office, the Supreme Court observed orally on Thursday while hearing a case concerning the Amaravati land scam.

"Maybe, at times, only political rivalry can bring out the truth," a Bench led by Justice M.R. Shah addressed senior advocate Siddharth Dave, appearing for Telugu Desam Party leader Varla Ramaiah.

> It is already settled that political rivalry cannot be a ground to quash inquiry... If you are in the clear, why should you worry
>
> **SUPREME COURT BENCH**

The court was hearing a challenge brought by the Andhra Pradesh government against the State High Court's "blanket stay" on an inquiry into the alleged scam.

Mr. Dave claimed the inquiry was instituted out of political vendetta towards the previous TDP regime in the State.

"It is already settled that political rivalry cannot be a ground to quash inquiry... If you are in the clear, why should you worry?" the Bench asked the TDP side during the hearing, at the end of which it reserved the case for judgment.

In June 2019, the YSRCP government issued a notification constituting a Cabinet sub-committee to review major policies and projects of the TDP government. The report of the committee pointed out several irregularities regarding various projects. In 2020, the State government issued another notification setting up an SIT to look into the findings of the report. Both notifications were stayed by the High Court indefinitely, prompting the State to approach the apex court for relief.

India can be a sizeable player in electronics: Minister

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

India has a great scope to emerge as a sizable player in electronics and semiconductor products manufacturing as part of China-plus-one diversification strategy, said Union Minister of State for Electronics and Information Technology Rajeev Chandrasekhar.

"We are well-positioned to become a trusted global partner under China-plus-one strategy and hopeful of becoming part of Global Value Chains (GVCs) for logic semiconductors, chip sets and other electronic products,'' the Minister said here on Thursday, while speaking at the 25th edition of Bengaluru Technology Summit, Karnataka's annual tech exposition. Elaborating on the opportunities for India currently, he said electronics and semiconductor products today was a $1.5 trillion industry with China solely accounting for almost 75% of it and having enjoyed a monopoly in the sector for over two decades now.

"However, the pandemic has brought tectonic changes in the global electronics and semiconductor industry and they triggered huge chip shortages and a shift in GVCs. Global economies are no longer dependent only on China and a China-plus-one diversification plan is clearly underway," he stated.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday

TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Friday: Squally weather (wind speed 40-45 kmph gusting to 55 kmph) likely to prevail over southeast Bay of Bengal and adjoining Andaman Sea, eastcentral & southwest Bay of Bengal. Fishermen are advised not to venture into these areas

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	29.6	16.9	Kozhikode	—	34.5	24.9
Ahmedabad	—	32.3	17.4	Kurnool	—	32.7	17.0
Aizawl	—	—	12.8	Lucknow	—	26.4	14.5
Allahabad	—	30.2	15.8	Madurai	—	31.2	23.2
Bengaluru	—	28.4	17.6	Mangaluru	—	32.4	23.0
Bhopal	—	—	14.4	Mumbai	—	34.2	20.4
Bhubaneswar	—	31.2	16.5	Mysuru	—	30.0	17.4
Chandigarh	—	24.9	12.2	New Delhi	—	25.4	11.3
Chennai	—	30.1	21.3	Patna	—	29.2	15.6
Coimbatore	—	30.8	22.4	Port Blair	28	29.3	23.6
Dehradun	—	25.5	9.8	Puducherry	—	30.3	20.2
Gangtok	—	16.5	9.8	Pune	—	30.1	14.9
Goa	—	34.0	20.6	Raipur	—	31.0	15.6
Guwahati	—	29.2	17.8	Ranchi	—	26.5	13.4
Hubballi	—	31.0	17.0	Shillong	—	19.5	9.2
Hyderabad	—	30.6	13.6	Shimla	—	15.7	5.2
Imphal	—	25.8	9.9	Srinagar	—	15.4	1.2
Jaipur	—	26.8	14.0	Thiruvananthapuram	2	31.7	23.3
Kochi	—	30.6	25.0	Tiruchi	—	30.1	22.6
Kohima	—	22.3	8.5	Vijayawada	—	31.4	18.6
Kolkata	—	30.0	17.5	Visakhapatnam	—	32.4	22.0

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.36	..73	...8	58	79	
Bengaluru	...8	..29	.69	...280	...146	
Chennai	.12	..29	.85	...220	...109	
Delhi	.17	8	.49	...343	...331	
Hyderabad	...5	..20	.38	...199	...158	
Kolkata	.19	..28	.32	...311	...220	
Lucknow	.10	..40	.77	...230	...169	
Mumbai	.80	157	102	...285	...230	
Pune	..—	..71	.59	.....—	.....—	.....—
Visakhapatnam	.17	..84	.25	...197	...182	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Motihari, Bihar recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 448 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Aizawl, Mizoram recorded a healthy AQI score of 23

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Nominated members of town panchayat and municipality have no right to vote in elections to Council, declares HC

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has declared that nominated members of municipalities and town panchayats under the Karnataka Municipalities Act, 1964, are not entitled to be enrolled in the electoral rolls to caste their votes in the election to the Karnataka Legislative Council from the Local Authority Constituency (LAC).

Also, the court has directed the Election Commission of India (ECI) to delete the names of 39 nominated members of various town panchayats, coming under the Chikkamagaluru local authority constituency (LAC), from the voter list of the constituency.

Justice Hemant Chandangoudar passed the order while allowing the petitions filed by A.V Gayathri Shanthe Gowda of Chikkamagaluru who unsuccessfully contested from the Congress to the Legislative Council from the Chickkamagaluru LAC., and some of the elected members of

> **Court directs ECI to delete names of 39 nominated members of various town panchayats from the electoral rolls of Chikkamagaluru local authority constituency**

the town panchayats.

While interpreting the provisions of the KMC Act and Article 243-R of the Constitution of India, the court said that, "Merely because the parliament has not amended Section 27(2)(b) by restricting only the elected members to be registered in the electoral roll after Article 243-R was inserted, it cannot be implied that the term "every member" as specified in Section 27(2)(b) of the RP Act, 1950, includes nominated member to the town panchayat"

Construing the provisions of the KMC Act to mean that nominated members have vote in the elections from the LAC would lead to an absurd result since the person nominated by the government are neither the councillors as defined under Section 2(6) of the KMC Act, 1964 nor they have the right to vote in the meetings of the town panchayats, including the election to the chairperson of the town panchayats, the court said.

"The term 'every member of the local authority' means 'only the elected members' who are the councilors of the town panchayat and the said term cannot be extended to persons nominated by the government to the town panchayat, who are not the councillors of the town panchayat and interpretation otherwise would lead to absurd results and goes against the spirit of Article 243-R of Constitution of India and Section 352 of the KMC Act, 1964," the court observed.

RAJIV GANDHI UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES, KARNATAKA
4th 'T' Block, Jayanagara, Bengaluru – 560 041.
Ph No.080-26961928 Fax-080-26961929

No:RGU/PROC/Com.St/76/2022-23 Date: 17.11.2022

E-TENDER NOTIFICATION (RFP)

The Registrar Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences invites tender for Supply of Computer Stationery to RGUHS. More details on the service are provided in the attached Terms of Reference.

Tender document available for downloaded	16/11/2022 16.35 Hrs
Pre Bid meeting	22/11/2022 11:00 Hrs
Last date for receipt of Tender	29/11/2022 17:00 Hrs
Opening of Technical Bid	30/11/2022 17:15 Hrs
Place of Opening of Tender	Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, Bengaluru

More details can be fetched from website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.**
Sd/-
DIPR/3133/2022-23 REGISTRAR

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN : U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No. SEE/Tr(W&M)C/MRB/EE(O)/AEE-1/T-64/22-23/5077-79 Date: 16.11.2022

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION (E-PROCUREMENT MODE ONLY)

Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited invites Tender for the following work. **Bid Enquiry No.** KPTCL/SEE/TR.(W&M)C/MRB/EE(O)/AEE-1/22-23 Dated: 15.11.2022. Estimate for conducting detailed Survey using modern survey techniques for **Construction of 110kV S/C Radial line on DC towers from existing 220/110/11kV Gangavathi (Sulekal) Sub-Station to the existing 110/11kV Sub-Station at Chilakamukhi for a distance of 28 km. in Koppal District** conforming to our Technical Specifications, F.O.R.D at Store/Site basis, including insurance and transportation. Tenders will be received through E-Procurement mode only. The detailed notification regarding the subject enquiry in the e-procurement process can be obtained by logging on to KPTCL website **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** on hyperlink "e-procurement-KPTCL"or directly logging on to website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in on or after 19.11.2022 at 11:30 Hrs** details can be obtained from the office of the under signed.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer, Ele
Tr.(W&M) Circle, KPTCL, Munirabad. Tel.: 08539-270094

Office of the Executive Engineer,
Public Works Department, Chikkamagaluru Division, Chikkamagaluru

Short-Term Tender Notification No.: 31/22-23 Date: 15.11.2022

In the Tender Notice seen above Tender is invited from eligible contractors for total 15 works through manual and e-proc coming under Chikkamagaluru, Tarikere, Mudigere, Koppa and Kadur Taluk Public Works Department sub divisions of Chikkamagaluru District. Details of capabilities to undertaking or having implemented the works (as per Standard Tender Document KW-1, 2, 3 & 4) should be attached. Contractors can be awarded the contract only if they have the minimum eligibilities as mentioned in Act 3. Minimum Approx. Amount Rs. 3.68 lakh and Maximum Approx. Amount Rs. 125.00 lakhs. For the Tender called through manual for 1 work eligible contractors should pay the prescribed fee and submit application requesting blank Tender Form on 24.11.2022 & 25.11.2022 and obtain blank Tender Form on 28.11.2022 and submit filled Tenders on 29.11.2022 up to 4.00 PM. For Tender to be submitted through e-proc for 14 works (on 23.11.2022 for 1 work, on 24.11.2022 for 1 work, on 25.11.2022 for 4 works, on 02.12.2022 for 6 works, on 03.12.2022 for 2 works, within 4.00 PM) tender should be submitted. In case these days are declared as holidays the next days will be considered. For further details the case worker can be contacted during office hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Chikkamagaluru Division, Chikkamagalur.
DIPR/ckm/No.194/mca/22-23/1266

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client **Mr. ASHOK KUMAR MALI GELOTH B., S/o Late. Bhakar Ram Mali Geloth**. residing at No. 13. 4th Cross. A' Street, Magadi Road Right Side, Magadi Road, Bangalore-560 023, proposes to purchase the following property from **Mrs. Devaki. S.,** W/o Mr.Rangaswamy.G and family, residing at No.25, 5th Cross. K.P.Agrahara, Magadi Road. Bangalore-560 023.

Any person/s and Financial Institutions having any right, title, interest claims objections for the above said transaction any lodge his/their claims/objections with documentary evidence within 15 days from the date of publication of this which with the undersigned, failing which, thereafter any client shall proceed to complete the transaction and any claim/s or objection/s received thereafter will not be entertained.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the Western Side of South Side of Property bearing Municipal No.25. P.I.D.No.31-14-25, (Previously Old Municipal No.I7/A, Then Municipal Nos.25, 25/1 and 25/2, P.I.D.Nos.31-14-25, 31-14-25/1 and 31-14-25/2, 5th Cross. Kempapura Agrahara, Magadi Road, Bangalore-560 023) Presently at 5th CROSS ROAD. K.P.AGRAHARA. BMP Ward No.31, BBMP Ward No.121, Bangalore, measuring East to West : 50-0 Feet. North to South : 25-0 Feet, totally 1250 Square Feet, along with old house and bounded on :

East by :: Remaining Portion of same Municipal No.25 retained by Vendor,
West by :: 5th Cross Road,
North by :: Remaining Portion of same Municipal No.25 retained by Vendor,
South by :: Previously property belongs to Thammaiah's House presently Private Property.

Sd/-. **S.R.GANGADHAR,** Advocate
Mathrushree Associates No.V-5, Shop No.2, Opp KIADB Building Near Peenya Sub-Registrar Office, 14Ih Cross, Peenya 2nd Stage, Bangalore-58. **Mob. 9448522933**
Date:18.11.2022, Place: Bangalore.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My clients **Mr. Jayaramu S/o Mr. Shivanna B.S and Mrs. Nagamani. L.R. W/o Mr. Jayaramu,** Both are residing at No.8/1, 6th Cross, 4th Main, Agrahara Dasarahalli, Magadi Main Raod, Bangalore-560 079, proposes to purchase the following property from **Mr.Murali.V S/o Mr. M.Venkatesh, and Mrs.Thayamma W/o. Mr.M. Venkatesh and family** both are residing at No.463 (42), 4th Cross, 1st Main, Kortigepalya, Vishwaneedum Post, Bangalore-560 091.

Any person/s and Financial Institutions having any right, title, interest claims objections for the above said transaction any lodge his/their claims/objections with documentary evidence within 15 days from the date of publication of this which with the undersigned, failing which, thereafter any client shall proceed to complete the transaction and any claim/s or objection/s received thereafter will not be entertained.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing Site No.42, Previously Western Portion of Kaneshumari No.463, Formed in Assessment/Survey No.55/10, Situated at Srigandadakaval (Kottigepalya) Village, Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Now B.B.M.P. Ward No.73, Presently KOTTEGEPALYA, 1st Main, 4th cross, Bangalore, measuring East to West : 40 Feet, North to South : (64+62)/2 Feet total 2520 sqft, and bounded on:

East by :: Property No.41(Eastern Portion of Kaneshumari No.463),
West by :: Property No.43 (Kaneshumari No.462),
North by :: Property belongs to Sri.Venkatappa
South by :: Road.

Sd/-. **S.R.GANGADHAR,** Advocate
Mathrushree Associates No.V-5, Shop No.2, Opp KIADB Building Near Peenya Sub-Registrar Office, 14Ih Cross, Peenya 2nd Stage, Bangalore-58. **Mob. 9448522933**
Date:18.11.2022, Place: Bangalore

KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAM LIMITED
(A GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA ENTERPRISE)

No. EE/KNNL/BNT/DN/PB-4/2022-23/1014 Date:15.11.2022

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through e-procurement system only)

Tenders are invited by the undersigned on behalf of Managing Director, KNNL, Bangalore from eligible bidders /contractors, for the works detailed below (as per KTPP Act 2000), on The intending bidders can submit tenders to be formed prior to the bidding only through e-procurement portal of Government of Karnataka website, **https://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** under Two Covers.(Technical and Financial) The detailed/blank tender document can be viewed / downloaded from the date & time of publication of tender in e-procurement portal. Stipulated time for submission of tenders/bids, for the works noted herein under, is as per KTPP Rules, Chapter-V, Rule-17, sub rule (2).

The calendar of events will be as per the schedule in the e-procurement portal.

1) Indent No : **34434,** 2) Amount put to tender : **Rs. 190.26 Lakhs,** 3) Date of commencement of Sale of bidding document : **18.11.2022 dt: AT 11.30 AM**, 4) Pre bid meeting : **24.11.2022 dt : 11:00 am,** 5) Last date and time for Submission of bids : **06.12.2022 dt: AT 5.00 PM**, 6) Time and date of Opening of Technical Bid : **07.12.2022 dt: AT 5.30pm**

Corrigendum, addendum, etc to the tendered work and any change in, Amount Put to Tender (APT), Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and conditions, etc for the above works, will be notified in e-procurement platform and the details of the same can be had from this office.

Further any information / queries / clarifications can be had from the under signed through email: eeknnlhebbal@gmail.com & from helpline Nos of e-portal https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in during office hours, before date & time allowed / notified.

Note: Any change / extensions etc., in the tender schedule (calendar of events) will not be published / advertised through news papers, changes will be updated on/in e-procurement portal only.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
DIP/Kalaburagi/844/MC&A/2022-23 KNNL., BNT Project Divn, Hebbal.

Government of Karnataka
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Minor Irrigation and Ground Water Development Department Division,
Mandya division, Mandya-571401.
Email: eemimandya@gmail.com
No.EE/Mandya/Tec Sec/Notification /2022-23/1270 Date :16.11.2022

Tender Extension Notification-1 Date : 16-11-2022

Subject : This office tender notification No : 03/2022-23, Date : 17-06-2022

With reference to the above subject, tenders were invited vide This office tender notification No : 3/2022-23, Date : 17-06-2022. In the above said notification Under the Head of Account 4702: Lift irrigation scheme for the work of Filling Of Aichanahalli and Other 50 Tanks (Phase-2) In K R Pete Taluk Of Mandya District By Lift Irrigation Scheme On Turnkey Basis has been modified and postponed as noted below due to technical reasons and published.

Amout Put tender is Rs. 9666.13 Lakhs instead of Rs. 10424.79 Lakhs.

Sl No	Subject	As Mentioned Previously	Extended Dated
1	Information regarding tender will be available at this office	14.07.2022 office hours	17.12.2022 office hours
2	Last date of receipt of tender in e-procurement	18.07.2022 17.00 hours	19.12.2022 17.30 hours
3	Date of opening of Financial Bid	20.07.2022 11.00 hours	21.12.2022 11.00 hours
4	Dated of opening of Financial Bid	22.07.2022 11.00 hours	23.12.2022 11.00 hours

There will be no changes in the original tender notification and all the information regarding work is published in the "www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in" tender Portal **special Note: Any correctgions regarding this tender notification will be published only in the "e-Procurement" portal.**

Sd/-Executive Engineer, MI & GWD Division, Mandya
DIPR/AD-MDY/MC&A/127(A)/2022-23

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(Ballari Thermal Power Station)
CIN: U85110KA1970SGC001919

NO.:KPCL/2022-23/PS/WORK_ INDENT13034/CALL-2 Date:16.11.2022

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

(Through e-procurement portal only) (Two Cover System)

Bids are invited through GOK e-procurement portal **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** from qualified agencies for the work of **Providing and Erection of Guide Supports / Brackets for ThyssenKrupp lift installed at Technical Building at BTPS.** Last date and time for submission of bids**: 01.12.2022 upto 16.15hrs**. Further details can be had from the office of the **Executive Engineer (CAM-1),** BTPS, KPCL, Kudathini-583 152. Ballari Dist. Mob: 9448290572.

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No: CEE/TRZ/SEE(O)/AEE3/22-23/8399-402 Date: 16.11.2022

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION (e-Procurement mode only)

KPTCL invites tenders for the following work.

Bid Enquiry No: KPTCL/CEE/TKR/TZ/CEP-234/Dtd: 15.11.2022 for **Supply of Safety Materials required for KPTCL Tumakuru and Davanagere Circle coming under Transmission Zone, KPTCL, Tumakuru.** The bids will be received through e-Procurement mode only. The detailed information regarding the subject enquiry in e-Procurement process can be obtained by logging in to e-Procurement website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** OR KPTCL website: **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** or click on hyperlink **"e-Procurement-KPTCL"** on or after **19.11.2022** and other details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned during office hours.

Sd/- Chief Engineer (Ele),
Transmission Zone, KPTCL, 1st Floor,
Siddaganga Complex, B.H.Road,
Tumakuru-2. Phone: 080-22356320

Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports
State Youth Centre, Nrupathunga Road, Bangalore-560001.
Ph : 080-22215601, 22211246. Fax : 080-22215602

No: Gethnaa/ES/135-1/2021-22 Date: 11-11-2022.

Tender Notification-3rd Call
E-Procurement Portal

Subject: The Deputy Director (Admin) Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports State Youth Centre, Nrupathunga Road, Bangalore-560001. KARNATAKA, INDIA invites Tender to take up the work at Supply of Aqua Sports Equipment of Gethnaa through E-Procurement Portal.

Particulars : Supply of Aqua Sports Equipment to Gethnaa **Amount put to tender :** Rs.90.00 Lakhs. **EMD:** Rs.1,80,000 **Last Date to Bid :** 23-11-2022 16.00 Hrs. **Technical Bid opening date :** 24-11-2022 16.30 Hrs.

The Tender shall be submitted through e-procurement Portal (http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in). Vendors need to register in the e- Procurement Portal to submit their bids online. The tender document can be viewed free of cost from the e-Procurement Portal. Additional information may be obtained during office hours at the above mentioned Address.

Sd/
Deputy Director (Admin) and
(Tender Inviting Authority)
DIPR/CP/3120/AKAR/22-23 **Dept. of Youth Empowerment and Sports**

Trade tumult

Shrinking exports with high deficits call for a policy reboot

For the first time since February 2021, India's goods exports shrank this October, dropping 16.7% from last year (and 16% from September 2022) to slip below $30 billion after a 20-month-streak above that mark. Most sectors were hit hard: engineering goods, pharmaceuticals and chemicals and employment-intensive gems and jewellery, textiles and handlooms. Just six sectors recorded an uptick, with electronics goods being the only manufacturing segment. Imports grew 5.7% year-on-year, expanding the country's trade deficit over 50% to $26.9 billion. This is the fourth straight month of a $25 billion-plus goods trade deficit that hit a record $30 billion in July. To be sure, imports have now been moderating sequentially for four straight months and dropped 7.3% from September to an eight-month low of $56.7 billion. But a marginal dip in petroleum imports, along with a 10.3% shrinking of non-oil, non-gold imports from September, can also be construed as a sign of slackening domestic demand. India's trade deficit so far this year is now over $175 billion, from $94.2 billion a year ago. With high energy prices likely to escalate with winter's onset, a significant easing in deficit levels is not on the horizon yet.

While the Government acknowledged forecasts of a slump in global shipments growth to just 1% in 2023, it attributed the October trade blip to a seasonal Deepavali effect – production dips as workers go on leave and imports rise with festive demand. Though the pre-Deepavali and Deepavali month exports did have a $5 billion gap in 2021, this was not the case in pre-COVID 2019. Officials conveyed there is no need to be 'overly depressed' as India has a very low share of global trade which can only grow. But that growth will not accrue automatically – in a shrinking buyer's market, rivals such as Vietnam cannot be expected to simply wait out the slump. In contrast, a new Foreign Trade Policy to replace the current policy from 2015, was recently deferred yet again till April 2023 for reasons that included waiting out the current global turmoil. If anything, the tumult in trade flows will be much worse by then. Policymakers must stop dithering and be more pro-active in recalibrating their stance – for instance, the steel export duty amid lower global prices has triggered higher imports, while exports, including those of engineering goods, have collapsed. The Finance Ministry recently identified external pressures as a key challenge – with a depreciating rupee making imports pricier and slowing global demand hurting exports. More actions are needed to match these concerns; waiting and watching is not an option.

Comeback bid

Despite party opposition, Trump is hoping to win the nomination again

What Donald Trump wanted to do was to make a grand announcement of his presidential bid, riding an expected Republican "red wave" that would have shattered the Democratic strongholds in the mid-term elections. But what he could pull off was an announcement at his Mar-a-Lago resort in Florida with much less fanfare and amid questions from within the party about his leadership after the GOP's less-than-expected performance. The Republicans managed to wrest control of the House of Representatives from the Democrats, but failed to flip the Senate – far from a red wave. Several Republican lawmakers publicly blamed him for the party's disappointing performance, while some others said Florida Governor Ron DeSantis, who was re-elected with a landslide in the one-time swing State, is the party's best bet for 2024. But Mr. Trump, who refused to recognise the 2020 results, does not seem to care or want to wait. At Mar-a-Lago, the twice-impeached (but not convicted) former President set the campaign tone with familiar slogans such as "make America great and glorious once again". He painted a bleak picture about the U.S. under President Joe Biden ("America is being invaded by immigrants") and projected himself as a saviour.

It is too early to say whether the GOP would pick Mr. Trump as its 2024 candidate; he is facing legal and political challenges. His business dealings are under the scanner and his alleged role in instigating the 2021 U.S. Capitol assault and other attempts to undermine the 2020 poll results are being probed. Separately, there is a criminal investigation by the Justice Department into classified files found at his resort. Besides, the mid-term poll results have showed his fading aura, which could strengthen the hands of his opponents. But still, it would be a mistake to rule him out so early. He has effectively transformed the GOP during his reign. What used to be a free market conservative party is now attracting more white working class voters. He has also shaped the party's view on China, trade, globalisation, and immigration. Even his party rivals cannot ignore these issues during the campaign. And he has proved that he has a knack to turn opportunities into momentum. But at the same time, his refusal to accept the 2020 poll results, his impulsive, personalised ruling style and unsavoury attacks on opponents, and attempts to bend institutions have all posed challenges to American democracy. Mr. Trump has not changed his ways or views since his 2020 defeat. Rather, he plans to double down on his right-wing rhetoric to avenge his loss and take the White House back. Choppy days lie ahead for American democracy.

Opaque political financing could cost democracy dear

The discourse around political finance in India usually revolves around the issue of corruption. We see this in the political contestation over the introduction of electoral bonds. It is either presented as a pious instrument for 'cleansing' politics, by routing funding through legal channels, or as a murky mechanism for legitimating 'institutionalised corruption'.

Thus, the corruption frame locks the issue of political funding into a superficial binary of 'clean' versus 'dirty', expressed in moral or legal terms. This framing precludes any focus on the structural relationship between the nature of political funding and the shape of our political system – conveniently so, for the relationship implicates almost every political party, whether it is ruling or in the Opposition. Corruption is merely one symptom of this structural relationship, rather than being a driving factor.

Asim Ali

is a political researcher and columnist

How it plays a pivotal role

In any country, the nature of political finance is an important determinant of the structure of political competition. The structure of political competition can be studied around three axes: institutional (the regulation of competition between ruling and Opposition parties); organisational (the regulation of competition within a party); and ideological (the role of ideas in determining competition between parties).

All the three axes of political competition are substantially influenced by the nature of political finance. One, the degree of transparency of political funding informs the efficacy of institutional safeguards. For example, the inherent opacity of electoral bonds renders the power of the Election Commission of India (ECI) irrelevant in terms of ensuring a level-playing field. Meanwhile, the information asymmetry between the ruling and the Opposition parties gnaws at the fairness of electoral processes.

Second, the extent to which political funding is centralised within a party determines whether power in the party is drawn from organisational structures or exercised in a personalistic manner. For example, membership-funded parties such as the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam and the Bahujan Samaj Party of an earlier era were highly organised parties where leaders wielded power in a responsive, programmatic manner. Similarly, we can chart the transformation of the Labour Party in the United Kingdom over the course of the 20th century, from an organisationally-driven mass party to a centralised elite party, as (among other factors) the balance of party funding shifted from Labour unions to corporate houses.

Third, the political financing regime also shapes the role of ideas in grounding political competition. Admittedly, this relationship can proceed in varied ways according to the contingencies of different political contexts. But, as a general matter, when political finance is anchored to a narrow concentration of economic capital, the ideological basis of political competition tends to become severely corroded.

It is important that independent institutions check the black hole of electoral bonds with a minimum level of institutional safeguards

Bonds as advantage to ruling party

Having constructed this framework of analysis, let us come back to the issue of electoral bonds. How do we expect the rise of electoral bonds, as a major source of political finance, to affect the prevailing patterns of political competition? At the outset, one must note the remarkable speed with which electoral bonds have colonised at least the declared sphere of political funding. Within two years of its introduction, electoral bonds were said to cover 52% of the total income of national parties and 53% of the total income of regional parties, according to an analysis by the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR).

There are two salient features of electoral bonds we must consider to gauge its impact on political competition.

One, the design of electoral bonds, perhaps more than any other instrument of political finance, leans to the advantage of the ruling party. It is not surprising that the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in 2019-20 got over 75% of the total electoral bonds sold, as opposed to the meagre 9% share of the Congress, according to ECI data. As the political scientist, Milan Vaishnav, has written, electoral bonds invert the concept of transparency and openness in political funding, whereby only the government, and presumably the ruling party, have access to the transaction trails. The information asymmetry and barriers to institutional scrutiny thus created considerably skews the channel of electoral bonds towards the ruling party. Second, electoral bonds centralise political funding towards the national units of political parties, further entrenching the leverage of national leadership over the State and local units. As a reply to a Right To Information (RTI) query revealed, out of the ₹5,851 crore of electoral bonds sold in 2018-19, 80% of the bonds were redeemed in Delhi. Electoral bonds were introduced alongside significant legal amendments, such as the removal of erstwhile limits (7.5% of net profit) on corporate donations. These changes in the legal architecture of political finance enable the prospects of an alliance of national political elite and big business conglomerates squeezing the space for both local elites and regional capital.

These two features of electoral bonds signal an important break, harking back to another turning point in the history of political finance brought under the Indira Gandhi regime. As Mr. Vaishnav and Devesh Kapur have written in their book, *Costs of Democracy: Political Finance in India*, Indira Gandhi banned corporate donations in 1969 in order to limit the growth of the Swatantra Party and the Jana Sangh, who she feared were increasingly attracting corporate backers. These changes in political funding melded well with her wider strategy of tightening the grip of the state (and hence the ruling party) over big business through the project of dialling up licence/controls and nationalisation of key industries. At the same time, the Indira Gandhi regime also cultivated personalistic relationships with big business elites in order to marginalise the regional strongmen which had till then controlled the organisational structure of the Congress party.

Centralisation of power

Yet, the centralisation of political power seems even more commanding in the present time. Even as Indira Gandhi completely subordinated the Congress elite in the Hindi-speaking States, she allowed a measure of autonomy to leaders such as Yashwantrao B. Chavan in Maharashtra and D. Devaraj Urs in Karnataka, who were backed by important sources of regional capital. Similarly, while Rajiv Gandhi changed Chief Ministers in Uttar Pradesh on a whim, he coaxed a rebellious Sharad Pawar back into the party fold. Today, Prime Minister Narendra Modi commands unquestionable authority even in these States, sidelining B.S. Yediyurappa from the Karnataka unit and coercing Devendra Fadnavis into accepting a secondary role in the Maharashtra government, without provoking a squeak of protest. Meanwhile, the Bharatiya Janata Party now possesses the autonomy to bring in measures such as demonetisation and Goods and Services Tax (GST) that hurt its traditional backers (small businessmen and trading castes), because they now contribute an insignificant speck to its political treasury.

To be sure, the new political financing regime only builds on the political pathologies already prevalent in our system (crumbling organisations; political centralisation; a business-politics compact fuelled by rent seeking and cronyism) rather than creating them from scratch. Even so, it is important that independent institutions (such as the ECI and the Supreme Court of India) step in to layer the seeming black hole of electoral bonds with a minimum level of institutional safeguards, lest this "reform" of political finance goes down in history as a significant marker in our story of democratic decline.

Weighing in on PMGKAY, the free grains scheme

The extension of the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY), a scheme to distribute free foodgrains to the poor, for another three months, comes as a surprise for many reasons.

First, in the months prior to the latest extension made in late September 2022, there was much debate on the relevance of freebies. Second, there were reports in June that the Expenditure Department at the Centre did not favour it, citing a funds crunch. It also held the view that such a scheme was no longer needed "in non-pandemic times". This has to be viewed in the context of the Russia-Ukraine conflict, raging since February 2022, and its adverse impact on the world's food and energy sectors.

T. Ramakrishnan

ramakrishnan.t@thehindu.co.in

'To support the vulnerable'

Even more surprising is the Government's reason: that it wanted to support the poor and the vulnerable, estimated to be 80 crore, during the festival season between October and December. No such consideration was shown when the scheme was discontinued between December 2020 and April 2021, another important time for festivities. The country had still to recover from the effects of the first COVID-19 wave, which was the trigger for the launch of the scheme in April 2020.

Critics of the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party point out that the scheme's extension is with an eye on the Assembly elections in Himachal Pradesh and Gujarat, respectively. Also, the first extension fell in the period when the Bihar Assembly poll was held and the BJP shared power with the Janata Dal (United) in the State. The scheme is also regarded as one of the factors responsible for the BJP's victory in the 2022 Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections.

In contrast, the PMGKAY was not in force during December 2020-April 2021 when five States including West Bengal, Kerala and Tamil Nadu, went to the polls. It was re-introduced in May 2021 when there were indications of a second pandemic wave, and has been running since without interruption.

The Government may have its reasons in extending, once again, the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana scheme, but it cannot delay the commissioning of a study that should help stop the diversion of foodgrains and identify the food needy

Aimed at providing an additional allocation of foodgrains (rice or wheat) from the central pool at five kilograms per person per month free of cost, the PMGKAY benefits cardholders of the Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) and Priority Households (PHH) categories, both falling under the National Food Security Act (NFSA). This is over and above the regular monthly quota under the NFSA, i.e., 35 kg per month per family for AAY and 5 kg per month a person for PHH. The PMGKAY covers even Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) beneficiaries. After taking into account the estimated outgo of foodgrains – about 122 lakh tonnes during the current phase of extension, the aggregate allocation will be around 1,121 lakh tonnes. With the expenditure of ₹44,762 crore for the existing phase, the overall expenditure of the PMGKAY will be approximately ₹3.91 lakh crore.

Policymakers and experts concede that the scheme made a difference to food security and public health during the pandemic. Be it the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Food and Public Distribution or the authors of an IMF-published working paper, "Pandemic, Poverty, and Inequality: Evidence from India" (April 2022), the scheme has received commendation. The working paper concluded that "the social safety net provided by the expansion of India's food subsidy program absorbed a major part of the pandemic shock." However, it would have been far better had the Government taken the decision to extend the scheme based on findings of an objective study regarding the impact of the PMGKAY, as suggested by the Standing Committee in its March 2022 report.

Why a transparent study is needed

At least now, the central authorities should commission a study and make its findings public. Just as it did in the initial months of the pandemic, the Centre should consider providing 1 kg pulses free to States on a regular basis, or at least at highly subsidised rates.

To keep the budgetary allocation under control, rules on quota for rice or wheat can be changed suitably. While it is all right to provide foodgrains free during the pandemic, the central and State authorities need to ponder over the scheme's continuance, given the chronic problem of diversion from the Public Distribution System (PDS). In the non-pandemic period, the problem of diversion assumes a bigger dimension when a family of five, covered under PHH and living in a congested city, encounters practical difficulties in storing 50 kg rice or wheat a month, of which 25 kg is free. In many States, including West Bengal, Kerala and Karnataka, the 50 kg is free. In Tamil Nadu, for over 10 years, rice-drawing card holders, be they PHH or non-PHH, have been getting rice free.

In fact, the proposed study should be the basis for updating the database of foodgrain-drawing card holders, scrutinising the data critically and zeroing in on the needy. The task should not be onerous, given the widespread application of technological tools in the PDS such as Aadhaar, automation of fair price shops and capturing of the biometric data of beneficiaries. Using this database, the Centre and States can decide whether the size of the PHHs – nearly 71 crore – can be pruned or not.

In addition, if they feel the need to go beyond the mandate of the NFSA, as is being done under the PMGKAY, they can supply the foodgrains at a reasonable price. The culture of providing essential commodities free of cost at the drop of a hat has to go.

The elimination of the problem of diversion of foodgrains has to be taken up with renewed vigour as, after all, farmers toil hard in the fields to produce the grains and many deserving persons remain outside the food security net.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Defining the law

In the article, "This unseating of vice chancellors is faulty" (Editorial page, November 17), the writer has reiterated that the judgments of the top court of the land are faulty in connection with the quashing of Vice Chancellor appointments. The writer's points are: judgments are faulty; the University Grant Commission (UGC) Regulations will not prevail above the State law and it is not repugnant to the central law.

The UGC's Regulations fall under item 66 of the Union list and it is a central subject. The law is defined in Article 13 of the Constitution, in that the regulations will come under Article 13(3)a. So, it is the settled position that the UGC Regulations are a central law and the State University Act is repugnant to central legislation. Hence, the appointment of Vice Chancellors deviating from UGC Regulations is void *ab initio*; likewise the judgment of the Supreme Court of India.

Suresh Kumar A.,
Pettah, Thiruvananthapuram

The Constitution does not refer to any term as 'substantive law' or 'subordinate law' in explaining the term "law". Only the term "law "is used in so many provisions in the Constitution, which includes Article 13. A direct definition for the term "law" can be located only in Article 13; that too is only an inclusive one. Since that term "law" is not defined elsewhere in the Constitution and the term "law" is used in several provisions throughout the Constitution, there is every reason to follow the principles of that definition of "law" in Article 13 to the other parts of the Constitution. If it is taken that the definition of "law" as in Article 13 is only for that Article, in the absence of any other definition for the term "law" contained in the remaining part of the Constitution (while the Constitution in its various other provisions uses the term "law"), one has to stand by Article 367 which enables adoption of the interpretation in the General Clauses Act, 1897..

P. Muraleedharan,
Karakulam, Thiruvananthapuram

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address.

Isn't reservation for the poor a good thing?

Satish Deshpande
teaches Sociology at Delhi University

Arghya Sengupta
is Founder and Research Director at the Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy, Delhi

PARLEY

On November 7, the Supreme Court upheld the validity of the 103rd Constitution Amendment which provides 10% reservation to the economically weaker sections (EWS), but excludes from this quota the 'poorest of poor' among the Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), Socially and Educationally Backward Classes and Other Backward Classes (OBCs). In a conversation moderated by **Abhinay Lakshman**, Satish Deshpande and Arghya Sengupta discuss whether reservation should be used as a means to alleviate economic backwardness. Edited excerpts:

Should reservation be a means to address poverty?

Satish Deshpande: No. Reservations result in quotas, which means you set aside a certain number of seats or opportunities for a particular group and make them unavailable to everyone else, no matter what their situation. This kind of a conscious setting aside of the principle of equality requires a strong justification. And that justification is provided by various forms of social discrimination, which are permanent because they are tied to indelible social identities. And if those forms of discrimination are allowed to continue unchecked, we will never have equality. That is why reservation should be saved for the most intractable forms of discrimination and not for more transient, more easily treatable problems like those originating from economic reasons.

Arghya Sengupta: Reservation is a tool available to the government to alleviate different kinds of backwardness or discrimination that have been faced by certain individuals or groups. Is it a legitimate tool to use? Certainly. Is it a legitimate tool to use in cases of economic backwardness? To answer this, first we have to understand that reservation is not an exception to the rule of equality, but required by the principle of substantive equality. You're setting aside a certain number of seats, which are now not for open competition, [as] this is required by the principle of equality to try and ensure a level playing field. But a level playing field for whom? This is for elected governments to decide. At the time of the [drafting of the] Constitution, it was felt that reservations were needed in a particular context, which is social and educational backwardness. Now we see reservations of different kinds. It is open to a democratically elected government to introduce a principle of reservation on grounds other than caste as well.

A view of the Indian Supreme Court. REUTERS

Reservation has historically been used as a means to ensure equal representation for those who have been under-represented, based on social and educational backwardness. What does the EWS judgment mean for what justifies reservation?

SD: The government's decision is easy to understand. There is a constituency – the Hindu upper castes – which feels that it should be getting its share of reservation. This is the electorally relevant prize that is being fought for. The intention to do this extends across ideologies and governments. The Congress government also wanted to introduce this earlier. The question is, how does this square with constitutional principles? We are finding circuitous ways of explaining the logic of what is happening because we cannot name caste openly. The Court has argued that reservations are required for equality rather than being exceptions to equality. However, the common sense understanding has always been that these are exceptions, that caste is recognised only as an exception, and the implicit norm has been one of castelessness. This decision forces us to rethink whether that is true now as there is reservation for the upper castes.

Can reservation be provided to a group/class of individuals without proof of inadequate representation? Reservations for SCs, STs, and OBCs were introduced with proof that these communities were not adequately represented, but this is not the case with the EWS quota.

AS: First, I agree with Professor Deshpande – there is a clear political play in this. But there are three facts that I'd like to place on record. One, reservation on economic criteria has been made available to anybody who meets those criteria as long as they don't have reservation on the basis of social and educational backwardness. Now, because of the politics of it, this [EWS quota] is being seen as forward caste reservation. But this reservation, strictly speaking, is also available to poor Muslims, poor Christians, and poor religious minorities. Two,

> The EWS quota de-links reservation from the question of social justice, because now everybody has reservation; there is nothing differential being done for those groups that were discriminated against.
> SATISH DESHPANDE

we must realise that there has been a Constitution Amendment here. It [EWS quota] has not been brought under Article 16(4) of the Constitution, which requires proof of inadequacy of representation in government services. If it was brought under that Article, it would have failed the test of constitutional scrutiny. So, do you have to show inadequacy of representation here? No. And three, all the judges have said that bringing in economic criteria in the Constitution does not violate the basic structure of the Constitution. The previous judgments of the Supreme Court were in the context of social and educational backwardness. It was held that economic criteria alone could not be used, because that was not the original understanding of the Constitution. But now the Constitution has changed. And the interpretation [based] on which all the judges have said the same thing is that it is open for the Constitution to be amended so that reservations are provided on the grounds of economic criteria alone, without having to prove inadequacy of representation or any other form of social and educational backwardness, and without having to comply with the 50% quota.

SD: This judgment opens the door for purely economic criteria and therefore takes away the need to provide any other criteria. It also sets aside the 50% limit, so it opens the door for other communities to ask for more. Finally, it makes it clear that reservation is no longer a special tool meant to address discrimination and can be used to address all forms of backwardness and disadvantage.

The Court said the 50% cap is not inflexible. Jharkhand recently passed a Bill raising quotas to 77%. Many States are trying to do this. Does the judgment allow the 50% cap to be breached for the SC, ST, OBC quota?

AS: There was only the majority judge, Justice Dinesh Maheshwari, who said that the 50% rule is in the context of social and educational backwardness [and does not] apply to reservation based on economic criteria. The Jharkhand case will be tested, but my sense is that for social and educational backwardness, there will be a case that the 50% rule still applies. But as Professor Deshpande said, there will be more demands for reservation from different kinds of communities which feel disadvantaged. Now, whether that is permissible or not we will have to see.

Certain groups are being excluded from the quota, solely based on their caste identity, despite qualifying under the criteria for the quota. What does this judgment mean in terms of upholding that exclusion?

SD: It de-links reservation from the question of social justice, because now everybody has reservation; there is nothing differential being done for those groups that were discriminated against. This is going to be a major issue, because the very problem of discrimination is that the language of backwardness has dominated the reservation discourse. Discrimination involves a situation where there is a discriminator and a person/group discriminated against, whereas in the language of backwardness, there are victims without perpetrators. Therefore, there is no need to have any differential policies. In a sense, our development programmes, since Independence, were supposed to be on economic grounds. And look at what has happened – they deepened caste inequalities. We needed programmes that try to redress the effects of discrimination, not treat victims and perpetrators even-handedly, at least under the rubric of the anti-discrimination programmes. Now, we don't have anything for anti-discrimination. The last vestiges of that are the laws against caste atrocities. Perhaps those too are going to be on the firing line now.

To what extent does this exclusion affect the equality code of the Constitution?

AS: There are two ways to answer this question. First, does the quota impinge upon equality? It does. But is that impingement a basic structure violation? No. Because, as a matter of law, the quota is not available to forward castes alone. And second, if EWS operated like a creamy layer exclusion or as a horizontal category, there could have been a claim that this is impinging on someone else's rights. But it is an additional track that has opened up. The Constitution provisions authorise the state to make any positive discriminatory provision. So, it does not violate the equality code. There is a clear signal that the pie is now being expanded. This is a consequentialist moment in our social justice discourse, because it is changing the nature of reservations in the country.

To listen to the full interview
Scan the code or go to the link
www.thehindu.com

NOTEBOOK

Amid a sea of blue in Australia

Indian cricket fans are vociferous, passionate and emotional, and outnumber other fans wherever they go

K.C. Vijaya Kumar

Indian cricket fandom is global in reach. During the 2019 World Cup, India and Australia were all set to clash at London's Oval. Ahead of the encounter, Aussie skipper Aaron Finch grinned and said that this could feel like India's home ground considering the support that the Men in Blue always garner.

The next day, sportswriters reached the Oval, which could well have been Mumbai. The atmosphere was overwhelmingly desi, with the aroma of samosas wafting across the stadium. Fans in blue outnumbered their Aussie counterparts. Finch was absolutely right.

Leaping across time and geography, from 2019 to 2022 and from the northern hemisphere to the southern half, where the ICC Twenty20 World Cup hurtled across Australia, the story was no different. Indian fans were the most vociferous, whether in Melbourne, Sydney or Adelaide. If there was a twist, it lay in the weather, as there were cold and damp streaks in a season called summer.

Years ago, when the term demographic dividend was not as much in vogue as it is now, tennis star Sania Mirza said: "We are so many of us." This rings true when you track Indian sport, specifically cricket. That Indians, be it those at the stadium or those glued to the television, have an enormous impact on cricketing logistics and commerce is evident from the schedule that Rohit Sharma's men enjoyed at the T20 World Cup. India had more Sunday prime-time games while even the host, Australia, did not get such preferential treatment.

The atmosphere in Australia

In Australia, when India took on Pakistan in what turned out to be the championship's best match, the atmosphere was electric. It was a sea of blue with a pinch of green. Out in the stands, there was good-natured banter. Some fans even wore a split jersey with one half green and the other half blue, and belted out the evergreen *Yeh Dosti* number. During the game, a fan from across the border held up a placard: "Virat Kohli, please come to Pakistan and score a century." Kohli won the game for India. The next day, Najeeb, a follower with roots in Lahore, told Indian journalists: "You guys killed us man, Kohli was incredible."

However, fans who demand every inch of their idol's life can be obnoxiously intrusive as Kohli learnt the hard way. When the Indian team was in Perth ahead of the tournament, two hotel staff filmed the former Indian captain's room. It was a gross violation of Kohli's privacy and it forced the star to lodge an official complaint. But by then, the video had blitzed through WhatsApp.

The Indian fan constituency wasn't just about the diaspora in Australia; it was also bolstered by people flying in from India, the U.S., Canada and Europe. Arvind Desai and his friends from England tailed the Men in Blue. "We are following India. Between the games, we do the touristy things," he said from an adjacent seat on a flight in Australia. Another fan reportedly flew in from Texas at the last minute and spent nearly ₹15 lakh just to get a glimpse of India's last-stage performance.

But this love isn't unconditional; it is often fixated on nationalism. And collective self-esteem is linked to how the national team fares. When India crashed out in the semifinal against England, anger simmered among some followers and social media turned toxic. But this is a transient sentiment. If you feature India in another global tournament, the fans will fill up stadiums with their chants, whistles, drums and cheeky placards. And if India presses the exit button, the fans will sell their tickets, just as they did prior to the latest final. Pakistani fans made the most of their luck at Melbourne, but it was Jos Buttler's England that had the last laugh.

vijayakumar.kc@thehindu.co.in

PICTURE OF THE WEEK

A special relationship with football

Paintings of Argentinian captain Lionel Messi and Brazilian superstar Neymar on either side of a portrait of the World Cup trophy in Kochi. Flags, jerseys, cut-outs and portraits of Latin American football giants Argentina and Brazil can be seen everywhere in the streets of Kerala. While football fever grips Kerala every four years, this World Cup, which will kick off in Qatar on Sunday, is especially special since Keralites form a sizeable chunk of the Gulf country's population. Thulasi Kakkat

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO NOVEMBER 18, 1972

Private Bill to rename Andamans

New Delhi, Nov. 17: The Lok Sabha to-day briefly considered a suggestion to rename Andaman and Nicobar Islands as Shaheed and Swaran Dwips. The islands were given this name by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose when he set his foot on free Andamans territory as the head of the Azad Hind Government on 31st December, 1943. The suggestion was made through a Bill by Mr. B.K. Das Chowdhry (Cong.). During the inconclusive debate participants including Mr. Jharkhande Raj (CPI), Mr. Dasarth Deb (CPM) and Mr. Chitti Babu (DMK) appreciated the suggestion, but felt that the democratic procedure of obtaining views of the local people should be observed before changing the name. Mr. S.C. Samanta (Ind.) moved a motion suggesting that the Bill be circulated for eliciting public opinion. The mover of the Bill stated that public opinion in the country was strongly in favour of changing the name of the islands to commemorate the memory of many freedom fighters who had spent the best years of their life in the "cellular" jail of the Andaman.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO NOVEMBER 18, 1922

Cochin's welcome

Cochin, Nov. 18: Dr. Rabindranath Tagore, Mr. C.F. Andrews and party arrived at Ernakulam last evening when they were accorded a warm reception at the State Guest House. A large gathering of the State officials and prominent citizens was present at the Guest House to receive the distinguished visitor who, after partaking of light refreshments, was conducted in procession to the College Hall where in the name of the people of Cochin State he was presented with an address of welcome enclosed in a sandal-wood casket, and a purse, in aid of Viswabharati. Dr. Tagore replied expressing gratitude for the welcome and dealing at length with the ideals and objects of the international University he had organised. The Poet in explaining his message referred to the characteristic features of the great epic Ramayana and the works of Kalidasa as contrasted with Shakespeare's plays and the poetic literature of the West generally.

From Page One

SC agrees to list plea for Collegium review

The petitioners called the Collegium system a "synonym for nepotism and favouritism". It said repeated representations to the Centre to evolve an alternative mechanism to the Collegium system fell on deaf ears, prompting the petitioners to approach the Supreme Court. "The NJAC received the unanimous assent of both Houses of the Parliament (except for the lone dissenting vote of Shri Ram Jethmalani) and the assent of the 21 State Assemblies. The appointment and transfer of judges falls in the exclusive province of the legislative and executive policy. It was not justiciable at all. Therefore it is incumbent upon the government and the Opposition to restore the NJAC and to take all such steps that are required," the petition argued.

During the mentioning, Chief Justice Chandrachud pointed out that the Collegium system was provided by a judgment of the court. The Collegium system was introduced through a nine-judge Bench judgment in 1993. The CJI also wondered whether a judgment could be challenged through a writ petition.

The petition said the judicial appointments process should be transparent and open, involving the notification of vacancies and invitation of applications from "all eligible and desirous" of joining the Bench. The public should be allowed to voice their objections against the candidates. "The Collegium system of appointment of judges has resulted in the denial of equal opportunity for the petitioners and thousands of lawyers who are eligible, meritorious and who deserve to be considered. A mechanism in substitution of the Collegium is the need of the hour," the petition argued.

Review sought on Rajiv case convicts' release

"In such a sensitive matter, the assistance of the Union of India was of paramount importance as the matter has huge repercussions on the public order, peace, tranquillity and criminal justice system of the country," the Centre argued. It contended that the "principles of natural justice, the aim of which is to secure justice or to put it negatively to prevent miscarriage of justice have been grossly compromised by the order of November 11". On November 11, the top court ordered the release of Nalini, Ravichandran, Jayakumar, Suthenthiraraja (Santhan), Murugan and Robert Payas.

A Bench of Justices B.R. Gavai and B.V. Nagarathna had noted that the Tamil Nadu State Cabinet had recommended their premature release to the Governor in September 2018. The Governor, instead of taking a call, had passed on their files to the Centre. The Governor was bound by the advice of the Cabinet in cases of murder as their conviction under the now lapsed Terrorism and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act was set aside by the top court.

Perarivalan case

The Bench had referred to the case of their former co-convict A.G. Perarivalan, who was granted premature release by the top court on May 18 in exercise of its extraordinary powers under Article 142 of the Constitution. The May judgment had concluded that the State of Tamil Nadu, and not the Union, had exclusive power to recommend remission in the case. Shortly after Perarivalan's release, Nalini and Ravichandran had approached the top court for parity. The other four convicts had joined in by filing separate applications in the Supreme Court. Ordering them to be "set at liberty forthwith", Justices Gavai and Nagarathna had also taken into account that each of the six convicts had individually exhibited satisfactory conduct during their long incarceration. They had earned postgraduate degrees and diplomas while serving their sentence.

Suit in Gyanvapi case maintainable: court

The suit was filed by Kiran Singh, international general secretary of the Vishwa Vedic Sanatan Sangh, as the next friend of deity Lord Visheshwar Virajman, seeking that the property in question be declared as that of the deity. The application also sought that the structure currently standing there – that is, the mosque – be removed, and that Hindus get unfettered rights to enter the premises and worship their visible and invisible deities, including the alleged "*shivling*" found there in May this year. The application also sought a permanent prohibitory injunction against the Masjid panel, its members, agents, and anyone acting under them from entering the premises.

The Civil Judge's order comes a week after the Supreme Court extended interim orders that directed that no Muslim should be barred from offering prayers at the Gyanvapi mosque and that the area under dispute should be protected until further orders.

The fast-track court on Thursday also ruled that The Waqf Act, 1995 does not bar the instant suit because the issue of how and when the site was dedicated as Waqf property is "the total subject of evidence", which can be examined only when the suit is allowed to be tried. Further, as for the alleged bar on the suit as per the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991, the court held, "It is doubtful that what was the religious character of the disputed place existing on 15th August 1947."

The court remarked that the reality at this stage "cannot be determined without substantial evidence", for which the suit must be tried.

Govt. to hold 'off-site' on Andaman as it prepares for G-20 presidency

It plans to fly diplomats from all missions of G-20 countries, invitees and UN agencies to a resort on Havelock Island for a briefing by the MEA and the G-20 Secretariat; there will be an interactive meeting to take in ideas to build the policy agenda

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

Days ahead of taking over the G-20 presidency formally, the Union government plans to fly diplomats from all missions of G-20 countries, invitees and United Nations agencies to a resort on the Andaman Island for a special briefing by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) and the G-20 Secretariat, officials told *The Hindu*.

Bali bond: Prime Minister Narendra Modi with U.S. President Joe Biden at the recently concluded G-20 summit in Indonesia. REUTERS

The "off-site" for 30 to 40 diplomats will take place at Taj Exotica hotel on Havelock Island from November 25 to 27, where G-20 'Sherpa' Amitabh Kant, 'Sous Sherpa' Abhay Thakur, and G-20 National Coordinator and former Foreign Secretary Harsh Shringla will give them a preview of India's plans for the next year of its presidency.

They will also hold an "interactive" meeting with the diplomats, to take in ideas from them to build the policy agenda for the event on various issues, including trade and investment, climate change, food and energy security and health, as well as all the major items on the agenda for the grouping of the world's most advanced economies.

The MEA declined to comment about the off-site plan, and officials said many of the details are still being worked out.

'First' meet

According to the tentative programme, the diplomatic contingent will be taken by a special chartered flight to Port Blair on November 25, and will visit the Cellular Jail museum dedicated to freedom fighters. They will be taken by ferries to the Havelock Island hotel, where G-20 meetings will be held the next day. They will return to Delhi on November 27.

"This will be, in a sense, the first ever G-20 meeting India holds, as we will hear about the plans for the process. Logistically, the Indian government's plans to hold meetings in different cities won't be easy, but it is a good opportunity for India to showcase different parts of the country," one of the G-20 Ambassadors attending the off-site told *The Hindu*.

The delegates at the off-site will include G-20 countries, as well as some Ambassadors and High Commissioners from India's special invitees – Bangladesh, Egypt, Mauritius, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Oman, Singapore, Spain and the UAE.

In addition, UN Resident Coordinator Shombi Sharp and heads of other multilateral agencies have also accepted the invitation to travel to the Andamans.

The way ahead

The Ambassadors of Indonesia, Ina Krisnamurthi, and Brazil, Andre Aranha Correa Do Lago, who make up the troika of countries hosting the G-20 before and after India, respectively, will constitute the core group of countries involved in planning the G-20 agenda, and are expected to attend.

Among other invitees, *The Hindu* has learnt that the Ambassadors and High Commissioners of several countries, including Russia, Turkey, Australia, Germany, Mexico, Singapore, and United Kingdom, have already indicated their acceptance, while some nations such as France, Italy, Japan will send deputies, and others like the U.S., China, the UAE and Bangladesh would send other officials as they do not have an accredited Ambassador at present.

The meeting on the Andaman will prepare the way for the schedule of G-20 technical and ministerial meetings over the next 10 months, leading up to the G-20 summit in September 2023, which will be held in Delhi.

The government has already announced that in a departure from the previous G-20s, which stick to a single venue for most events, it hopes to hold the 200 or so G-20 official meetings in about 50 locations, including all the States and Union Territories. Another key decision was to hold the G-20 summit in September, rather than November, given the levels of pollution in Delhi due to crop burning at the later time.

"The idea is to hold preparatory meetings on a pan-India basis. Venues will be decided on certain criteria like the availability of accommodation and connectivity. State governments are part of the consultative process," an official involved in the planning told *The Hindu*.

Child dies in crude bomb blast in Bengal

The Hindu Bureau
KOLKATA

A nine-year-old girl died in a crude bomb explosion at Minakhan in North 24 Parganas district of West Bengal. The incident occurred on Wednesday evening.

The police on Thursday arrested her uncle Abul Hussain Gayen for storing crude bombs in his house. The child hailed from South 24 Parganas and had come to visit her uncle in Bakchora village. On October 25, a seven-year-old boy died in a similar incident in the district.

Trinamool seeks Murmu appointment

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

A delegation of Trinamool Congress MPs have sought an appointment with President Droupadi Murmu to appeal for directions from the President's office against Minister of State for Home Nisith Pramanik seeking his disqualification in connection with an arrest warrant issued against him in a 13-year-old extortion case.

India has evidence of terror financing through social media platforms: NIA chief

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

India has evidence of social media platforms using crowdfunding measures to fund terror activities, Dinkar Gupta, Director-General of the National Investigation Agency (NIA), said on Thursday.

The chief of the federal anti-terror agency said the misuse of these platforms was an issue that needed to be discussed at the third "No Money for Terror Conference" (NMFT), which India will be hosting from November 18 to 19.

Mr. Gupta, while sharing the details of the conference that is to be attended by representatives of 78 countries, said Pakistan and Afghanistan were not attending the event while a confirmation from China was awaited.

While Pakistan and Afghanistan will not attend the event, a confirmation from China is awaited

The Hindu reported on November 15 that the use of crowdfunding platforms to finance terrorism and weak control mechanisms of social media platforms were one of the four main agendas to be discussed at the conference.

Mr. Gupta said the aim was to build an integrated approach to countering terrorism. There would be 450 representatives attending the conference, including representatives from Interpol, Europol and the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).

Prime Minister Narendra Modi would be inaugurating the session on Friday.

"Terrorism is an important topic for India. Almost all countries will get an opportunity to present their points. There will be no limitations," Mr. Gupta said, adding that there had been a considerable reduction in number of terror incidents in all areas.

When asked if Pakistan's role in sponsoring terror in India would be addressed at the conference, Mr. Gupta said, "Discussions not revolved around a particular country, wherever the threat is coming from, will be discussed."

Sanjay Verma, Secretary (West), Ministry of External Affairs, said the NMFT was a complementary platform to discuss terrorism-related matters while the FATF also had money laundering as a vertical.

Lawyers protest 'transfer' of HC judges

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Advocates of the Telangana and Gujarat High Courts have decided to abstain from work following social media posts about the proposed transfers of Justices A. Abhishek Reddy and Nikhil S. Kariel, respectively, to the Patna High Court by the Supreme Court Collegium.

The Gujarat High Court Bar has also decided to make a representation to the Supreme Court judges. Hundreds of lawyers, it is reported, assembled in the courtroom of Gujarat High Court Chief Justice Arvind Kumar and observed a two-minute silent protest. It is suggested that the Collegium led by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud has also proposed the transfer of Madras High Court Acting Chief Justice T. Raja to Rajasthan.

ED questions Soren for over six hours in mining lease case

The Hindu Bureau
PATNA

Hemant Soren

Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren appeared before the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in Ranchi on Thursday in connection with an alleged mining lease case.

Before leaving for the ED's regional office, Mr. Soren charged that the probe "is a larger conspiracy by the BJP to destabilise his government in the State".

At the time of filing this report, Mr. Soren had been questioned for over six hours. Large number of supporters and workers of the ruling Jharkhand Mukti Morcha gathered outside Mr. Soren's official residence in protest against the probe against the Chief Minister.

In the neighbouring State of Bihar, RJD leader and Deputy Chief Minister Tejashwi Yadav said, "It all [that is, summons and raids on non-BJP leaders] will continue till 2024. Everyone is watching what is happening with Mr. Hemant Soren".

Earlier, before leaving for the ED's regional office, Mr. Soren addressed mediapersons and asserted that the allegations made against him were "baseless". "I'm shocked, how can such a huge allegation be brought against a Chief Minister so lightly?" Mr. Soren said.

NIA delaying transfer to house arrest, alleges activist

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Activist Gautam Navlakha's transfer to house arrest on Wednesday is back in the Supreme Court with the activist accusing the National Investigation Agency (NIA) of delay on "frivolous grounds" even as the Central agency raised security concerns.

Mr. Navlakha submitted that the NIA and the Maharashtra Police exceeded the stipulated time to inspect the residence where he would be held. Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, for the NIA, said they found that the residence was on a building housing a library run by the Communist Party."He is a Maoist and we objected to it," he said.

Moscow Format calls for minority rights, 'political reconciliation' in Afghanistan

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

The Moscow Format of Consultations on Afghanistan held in the Russian capital on Wednesday called for respect for all Afghan ethnic groups and minorities in a bid to create national reconciliation in the war-torn country. A joint statement issued after the meeting stressed upon ending all terrorist infrastructure in Afghanistan, and said placing of military infrastructure facilities of "third countries" in Afghanistan "and in adjacent states is unacceptable".

The Taliban did not participate in the talks, but welcomed the discussion and declared that it will not allow Afghan territory to be used against "stability of the region".

Russian envoy to Afghanistan Zamir Kabulov (second from left) during the meeting. AP

"The strengthening of Afghan authorities' efforts to ensure the basic rights and freedoms of the population were noted as important. The sides also expressed their support for the fundamental rights of all ethnic groups, including minorities, women and children, providing equal access to justice and education respectively," said the statement.

The representatives at the talks also called for "complete unfreezing" of Afghanistan's assets by Washington. Participating countries in the talks that included Russia, India, China, Pakistan, Iran, Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan called upon the Taliban to "fulfil its commitments to eradicate terrorism and drug trafficking".

Congress dissolves its U.P. poll committees

The Hindu Bureau
LUCKNOW

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Thursday dissolved all committees formed in Uttar Pradesh for the Assembly polls earlier this year. The State's new executive body unit is likely to be reconstituted under the leadership of Uttar Pradesh Congress Committee (UPCC) chief Brijlal Khabri.

"The Congress president has approved a proposal to dissolve all the committees formed for the purpose of the Assembly election in Uttar Pradesh in 2022, with immediate effect," said an official communication.

APPEAL

Name of Patient: **ANKITA MANNA,** 5 years.
Hospital Name: Manipal Hospitals.
Diagnosis: Congenital Heart Disease - Partial AV Septal Defect, Severe MR, Moderate TR, Moderate PAH. She requires to undergo an heart surgery partial AV canal repair, MV repair at the earliest. The estimated cost of the surgery is **Rs. 4,00,000/-.**
We request Kind Hearted Philanthropists to save her. Kindly send donation by Cheque/D.D/M.O favouring **Save Poor Lives** and on the back of Cheque write A/c Ankita Manna. **Our Account Details:** S/B Account No. 20000913487. State Bank of India, Raja Annamalaipuram Branch and IFSC CODE: SBIN0001855, You Can Donate through Google Pay No. **9884607377**, UPI ID: **savepoorlives@oksbi**. All donations are exempted under 80G of I.T. ACT.
Contact: SAVE POOR LIVES REGISTERED PUBLIC CHARITABLE TRUST, Flat No. A1, Ceebros Garden, Ground Floor, Old No. 76, Kamarajar Salai, Raja Annamalaipuram, Chennai-600 028. Contact No. **044 42044165 & 044 35691848,** Mobile: **9884607377,** E-mail: **savepoorlives@gmail.com**. Our website: **www.savepoorlives.com**

As Patel anger ebbs, Cong. loses tailwind in Saurashtra

GROUND REPORT

Sobhana K. Nair
RAJKOT

In the 2017 Assembly election in Gujarat, the Patidar agitation propelled the Congress to electoral success in the Saurashtra-Kutch region, helping it bag 30 seats against the 23 of the BJP. The party, however, finds itself back on the brink in the region now. The agitation is out of the equation now, and the Congress has been discredited, with its leaders, including the Patidar poster boy Hardik Patel, switching midway to the BJP.

In the Tankara Assembly constituency near Morbi, the Patidar anger swung the seat for the Congress in 2017, a first for the party in 50 years. Congress leader Lalitbhai Kagathara got a whopping 56% of the votes. The political situation has been flipped now, with the Congress once again thrown out of favour.

Brothers Ramesh Bhai Bhagya and Ashwin Bhagya are standing next to their fields in Tankara where they are harvesting peanuts, lamenting the rising costs of farm inputs, the removal of fertilizer subsidies, and the withdrawal of crop insurance. They complain about the lack of irrigation facilities and the erratic supply of power to run water pumps. But this long list of grievances is unlikely to influence their choice at the ballot box. "We voted for the Congress only because we wanted to teach the BJP a lesson. But clearly, it was a mistake. When you have a Congress MLA, but a BJP government in Ahmedabad and Delhi, no welfare projects come your way," one of the brothers said.

Can the AAP be the alternative to Congress then? It is an emphatic 'no' from voters. Nagjibhai Hirabhai Patel, who is listening to the whole discussion, succinctly captures the sentiment. "*Keshubhai nahi chala toh Kejriwal kahan chalega* (How will Kejriwal succeed where Keshubhai could not?)," he says. Keshubhai Patel, a former Chief Minister, launched the Gujarat Parivartan Party in 2012. The party won only two seats in the Assembly polls that year, forcing him to return to the BJP.

Multiple concerns: Rising farm input costs and withdrawal of crop insurance are issues in Saurashtra. VIJAY SONEJI

The Congress has not been able to consolidate its gains because at least nine of its MLAs from the Saurashtra-Kutch region shifted to the BJP in the middle of their tenure in the Assembly, while another left the party just days before the elections. At least three of these were Patel leaders.

Jayesh Patel is a Village Computer Entrepreneur (VCE) in Morjar village in the Dhari constituency. The VCEs work on a commission basis and in May, Mr. Patel was part of the agitation against the BJP administration demanding fixed pay instead of their current piecemeal wages. The operators' demands have not been met and Mr. Patel is concerned about the rising living costs, but still does not see the Congress as a credible alternative. "What is the point of voting for the Congress, when their MLAs are up for sale," he asked. The Congress MLA for Dhari, J.V. Kakadiya, was among those who switched to the BJP midway through their tenure.

This distrust among voters could influence the electoral outcome, admits Ramkishan Ojha, the Congress in-charge for Saurashtra. However, he believes that the situation has not altered drastically from 2017. "There is a deep undercurrent against the BJP because of inflation and the high rate of unemployment. The bare fact is that all the big infrastructure that one sees here in Saurashtra was built under the Congress governments in the Centre and the State. The BJP has always meted out step-fatherly treatment to the region," he told *The Hindu*. These factors are on top of the mind for most of the voters here, but it remains uncertain whether it will be enough to swing the vote in favour of the Congress.

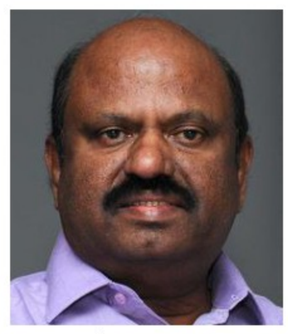
The party is also seen as an ineffective challenger because of its almost silent campaign in this election, in stark contrast to high-voltage campaigns of the BJP and the AAP.

By their own estimates, the Congress had cornered 47% of Patel votes in the region in the last elections. The party is not taking the Patel community lightly this time round; it has fielded 15 Patel candidates in the region, the same number as in the last Assembly elections.

The Gondal constituency provides a good example of the fact that though voter fatigue has been building against the BJP, the Congress has failed to cash in. The BJP managed to hold on to the seat even in the 2017 wave against them, but disgruntled voters still heap the blame on the Congress.

C.V. Ananda Bose appointed Governor of West Bengal

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI



C.V. Ananda Bose

Former bureaucrat C.V. Ananda Bose was on Thursday appointed the Governor of West Bengal, a communique from the Rashtrapati Bhavan said.

Manipur Governor La. Ganesan has been holding the additional charge of West Bengal since July when Jagdeep Dhankhar resigned to contest the Vice-Presidential polls.

"The President of India is pleased to appoint Dr. C.V. Ananda Bose as regular Governor of West Bengal. The above appointment will take effect from the date he assumes charge of his office," the communique said.

Mr. Bose is a 1977-batch former officer of the Indian Administrative Service. He has served in the rank of Secretary of Government of India and Chief Secretary to State governments as well as the Vice-Chancellor of a university.

He is known for his innovative ideas in the field of good governance.

The United Nations has selected his initiatives as 'Global Best Practice' four times.

A prolific writer, he has published 32 books in English, Hindi, and Malayalam across different genres.

Kisan Morcha to campaign against BJP in Gujarat poll

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Samyukt Kisan Morcha (SKM) has decided to campaign against the BJP in the Gujarat Assembly election, raising various issues concerning farmers.

The SKM leaders said here on Thursday that though none of them will contest the polls, they will issue an appeal to voters urging them to question political parties. The SKM has also decided to launch a national campaign on the second anniversary of the farmers' protests urging the Centre to implement all the promises it made before the protests were withdrawn last December.

All India Kisan Sabha general secretary Hannan Mollah said the SKM will campaign against the BJP in Gujarat. "We will appeal to the voters to ask political parties about their stand on debt waiver and the SKM. If the response is positive, then vote for that party. We will urge the people to ask political parties about MSP too," he said.

BJP, Congress to step up campaigning in Gujarat

Modi will hold rallies in the State from tomorrow, host of other leaders to join the campaign at various places; Opposition party to intensify its drive with programmes of Rahul Gandhi, others

The Hindu Bureau
AHMEDABAD

With finalisation of candidates for all 182 Assembly seats, the ruling BJP and Opposition Congress will turn their focus on campaigning in Gujarat for the two-phase election to be held next month.

Both parties had finalised their candidates as Thursday was the last day for filing of nomination papers for the second phase. The BJP is contesting all 182 seats, while the Congress has fielded candidates for 179, with three seats left for the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) as part of its alliance.

For the ruling party, its top leaders, including national president J.P. Nadda, Union Ministers and Chief Ministers of U.P., Assam and Madhya Pradesh are expected to address public meetings on Friday in the 89 constituencies going to polls in the first phase on December 1.

Battle plan: CRPF jawans holding a flag march ahead of the Gujarat Assembly election in Ahmedabad on Thursday. VIJAY SONEJI

As per the details, Mr. Nadda will hold rallies in Navsari, Ankleshwar and Rajkot East, while Union Ministers Nitin Gadkari, Narendra Singh Tomar and Anurag Singh Thakur will each speak at three or four meetings.

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and his Madhya Pradesh counterpart Shivraj Singh Chouhan will address three and four rallies respectively.

Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis and Union Ministers V.K. Singh and Faggan Singh Kulaste are among other party leaders who will be addressing rallies in Saurashtra and south Gujarat.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will arrive on Saturday for three days of campaigning. He will start from Valsad in South Gujarat before holding rallies in Saurashtra seats such as Veraval and Botad.

The Opposition party, whose campaign has been low-key so far, will intensify its programme with Rahul Gandhi's rallies in Amreli, Rajkot (Saurashtra) and Vansda. Besides, other top Congress leaders like Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, his Chhattisgarh counterpart, Bhupesh Baghel and former Ministers are expected to join the campaign.

Maken made star campaigner for Rajasthan bypoll

NEW DELHI
The Congress on Thursday named Ajay Maken as one of its star campaigners for the Sardarshahar bypoll in Rajasthan. The move comes just days after Mr. Maken requested that he be relieved of his responsibilities as the State party in-charge.

Electoral bonds worth ₹10,246 crore sold so far

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Electoral bonds worth ₹10,246 crore have been sold by the State Bank of India (SBI) since the instrument was launched in March 2018.

Electoral bonds have been pitched as an alternative to cash donations made to political parties as part of efforts to bring transparency to political funding.

In a Right to Information (RTI) reply, the SBI said the majority of these bonds were of ₹1 crore while less than 10% of subscriptions were of lower denominations – ₹10 lakh, ₹1 lakh, ₹10,000 and ₹ 1,000. About 93.5% of total bonds sold were in the denomination of ₹1 crore, according to an RTI filed by Chandra Shekhar Gaur.

Only 0.25% in value terms were from ₹1 lakh, ₹10,000 and ₹1,000 denominations.

The SBI has been authorised to issue and encash electoral bonds through 29 authorised branches.

RSS-backed union asks Centre to rethink PSU privatisation decision

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Thousands of workers affiliated to the RSS-backed trade union Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS) on Thursday protested here against the Centre's policies of privatisation and corporatisation of public sector undertakings.

The leaders of the BMS met Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, and urged him to review the decision to corporatise ordnance factories. In a memorandum to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the BMS said the Centre must rethink its decision on privatisation of PSUs on a rational basis. To get an insight and ground reality, it must hold discussions with trade unions, it said.

Lopsided policies

Leaders said policy measures such as dividing PSUs into core and non-core sectors, corporatisation of defence and railway establishments in the name of professionalisation and contractualisation of jobs in different forms were lopsided and might not yield expected results in long run.

The BMS said the PSUs had done tremendous service during the pandemic.

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
HIGHER EDUCATION (UE) DEPARTMENT
NOTIFICATION

A notification is issued inviting applications for appointment of Members under Section 4 of A.P. Higher Education and Monitoring Commission Act, 2019.

For other details, please visit **https://apsche.ap.gov.in** Applications with bio data may be sent within (15) days from the date of notification by registered post to the following address.

The Chairman,
A.P.State Council of Higher Education,
3rd, 4th and 5th floors, Neeladri Towers,
Sri Ram Nagar, 6th Battalion Road,
Atmakur (V), Managalagiri (M), Guntur - 522503

Date: 16-11-2022
Place: Velagapudi

J. SYAMALA RAO
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

TAMIL NADU URBAN HABITAT DEVELOPMENT BOARD
SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, CHENNAI EAST-I CIRCLE
TENDER CANCELLATION NOTIFICATION

Lr. No.TNUHDB (629, 630 / HD / SE (East-1) /2022 Date:17.11.2022

The tender for the work of "Construction of 638 tenements (S+9), (S+11) floors including internal water supply, sanitary, electrification arrangements at **Andimanyathottam** in Corporation Dn . No 126, Mylapore Chennai under HFA - (AHP)" vide Tender Notice No.TNUHDB / 629, 630/ HD / SE (East-1) / 2022 Date: 31.10.2022 (Sl.No.1) Published on 01.11.2022 is here by cancelled due to administrative reasons. The rest of the work is unchanged. Further details are available at www.tenders.tn.gov.in

DIPR / 5148 / Tender / 2022
"சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம், சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்"

Superintending Engineer
Chennai East-1 Circle

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice

Tender No : 116/2022-23/KWA/PHC/D2/TVM. 117/2022-23/KWA/PHC/D2/TVM, (1) JJM - Providing Pipe line extension and 11315 FHTC in Karode Grama Panchayath Part 1-Pipeline Work (2) JJM - Providing Pipe line extension and 8441 FHTC in Kulathoor Grama Panchayath - Pipeline Work, EMD : Rs. 500000/- each, Tender fee : Rs. 15000/- each, Last Date for submitting Tender : 08-12-2022 03:00:pm, Phone : 04712722303, Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in

Superintending Engineer,
KWA-JB-GL-6-1053-2022-23 PH Circle, Thiruvananthapuram

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
(CONSTRUCTION ORGANISATION)
Ernakulam Junction

TENDER NOTICE NO.: DCE-II-CN-ERS-OT-05-2022 DATED: 16.11.2022
Name of the work: Doubling of track between Ernakulam - Turavur - Proposed Valuation of Structures between EAK/31 and TURAVUR
Tender Value: **Rs. 15.41 lakhs**
Completion Period: 4 months
Date of Opening: 09.12.2022@15.00 hrs
Complete details & tender document will be available at **https://www.ireps.gov.in**

Dy. Chief Engineer,
(Construction), II, Ernakulam Jn.
Follow us on twitter.com/GMSRailway

RAJASTHAN STATE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT & INVESTMENT CORPORATION LTD.
(A Rajasthan Government Undertaking)
Udyog Bhawan, Tilak Marg, Jaipur- 302005, Phone- 0141-2227751, 4593201
Fax: 0141-4593210 E-mail: riico@riico.co.in Website-www.riico.co.in

TENDER NOTICE

RIICO invites sealed tenders/bids through **eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** for the following works/services/supply etc.

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs.in Lacs)
1.	**Unit Head, Jaipur (North)**	
1.1	Procurement of Fire Tender Vehicles at Unit Office Jaipur (North), Vishwakarma, Jaipur. **UBN-RDC2223WSOB01223**	440.00

Bidders/contractors may download and submit tender online. Detailed information of tenders and any kind of corrigendum/ date extension, if any in future, may be seen by bidders on websites **www.riico.co.in** and **www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in**
For queries please contact: AGM (Civil) Ph. 0141-4593212
Raj.Samwad/C/22/10510

DIRECTORATE OF COLLEGIATE EDUCATION, Chennai - 15, Tamil Nadu
NOTICE INVITING RE-TENDER - R.C.NO:1276/N1/2020

Sealed tenders are invited for the following work. Bidding will be conducted under two cover system conforming to Tamil Nadu Transparency in Tender's Act.

Name of the Work : **Supply & Delivery of Science Lab Equipments.**
Place of Execution : 62 Government Arts & Science Colleges located at various places in Tamil Nadu.
Earnest Money Deposit : Physics - Rs.1,42,500/-, Chemistry - Rs.1,42,500/-, Botany - Rs.1,22,500/- & Zoology - Rs.1,12,500/- By way of Demand Draft in favour of **Senior Accounts Officer,** Directorate of Collegiate Education, payable at Chennai.
Security Deposit : 5% of tendered value of work
Bid document available (at free of cost) : **www.tndce.tn.gov.in** and **www.tenders.tn.gov.in**
Due Date, Time and Place for the submission of bids : **19.12.2022 upto 3:00 P.M.,** in the Directorate of Collegiate Education, Chennai - 15
Date, Time and Place of Opening of Bids : **19.12.2022 at 3:30 P.M.,** in the Directorate of Collegiate Education, Chennai -15. Selection will be based on the least cost among the technically qualified bidders.
Further details : Can be seen in the above websites.

DIPR/5140/Tender/2022
"சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம், சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்."

Director of Collegiate Education (FAC)

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice
No. MAS/EGS/ET/35/2022-2023
Dated 16.11.2022

1) Name of work: Chennai Division - Electrical arrangements for Provision of MSDAC Huts in various sections of Chennai
2) E-Tender notice number: MAS/EGS/ET/35/2022-2023 dated 16-11-2022
3) Tender number: ME-29-II-1012RIV-2022
4) Value of work: Rs. 48,82,185/-
Further details regarding the tender may please be viewed from **www.ireps.gov.in**

Sr. DEE/G/MAS
Follow us on : twitter.com/GMSRailway

तमिलनाडु केन्द्रीय विश्वविद्यालय
(संसद द्वारा पारित अधिनियम 2009 के अंतर्गत स्थापित)
CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF TAMIL NADU
(Established by an Act of Parliament, 2009)
नीलक्कुड़ी /Neelakudi
तिरुवारूर/Thiruvarur- 610 005
E mail: recruitmentteaching@cutn.ac.in ; recruitment@cutn.ac.in

RECRUITMENT ON TEACHING POSTS & NON –TEACHING POSTS

Advertisement No : CUTN/T/03/2022
Advertisement No : CUTN/NT/03/2022

Central University of Tamil Nadu invites applications for direct recruitment on various Teaching and Non-Teaching posts. For further details and application, interested candidates may visit **www.cutn.ac.in**.

Application link for Teaching posts : cutnrec.samarth.edu.in
Application link for Non – Teaching posts : cutnnt.samarth.edu.in

Place: Thiruvarur
Date : 18.11.2022

Sd/-
Registrar (i/c)

नगर विकास न्यास, बीकानेर
Near Collector Office, Bikaner (Rajasthan) Fax :- 91-151-2226012, Phone :- 91-151-2226012, 91-151-2226013
E-Mail Address:- uitbikaner@yahoo.co.in Web Site :- urban.rajasthan.gov.in/uitbikaner

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

क्रमांक – नविन्या / बीका / 2022–23 / 14576 दिनांक : 14.11.2022

Uit Bikaner invites Expression of interest (EOI) form eligible entities for Operation and maintenance of Toy Train & Children Park (At Science & Children Park in Public Park, Bikaner) owned by UIT For 5 Years.

The Developer shall be free to implement their own concepts taking in to Consideration all the applicants norms and Regulation Rajiv Gupta Executive Engineer, Bikaner can be contacted (Mo. No. 9413311610) for site visit with prior intimation.

Interested parties may download expression of Interest (EOI) Document form www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in and urban.rajasthan.gov.in/uit Bikaner form ..... Please furnish demand Draft/ pay order for Rs. 10,000/- towards "EOI Processing fee" for project in favor of Secretary, Urban Improvement Trust, Bikaner. Along with EOI Document before 5.00 PM on or before 25-11-2022 in sealed envelope containing hard soft copy. For any clarification applicants may seek through mail uitbikaner@yahoo.co.in.

The submitted document will be evaluated and firms found eligible will be invited to make a presentation on their capabilities. The Eligible firms will be shortlisted for further tender process.

Raj.Samwad/C/22/10496

Executive Engineer

Government of Odisha
Sports & Youth Services Department
Request for Proposal

Sports & Youth Services Department, Government of Odisha invites bids from leading event management agencies to the RfP on **"Engagement of a Public Relations & Communications Agency for Sports & Youth Services Department, Government of Odisha** bearing no. SYS-IT-IT-0016-2022/20981/SYS, dated 16/11/2022. The details of the document are available at the website **https://tendersodisha.gov.in/**.

Interested firms/ parties/ agencies are advised to study the RfP document carefully before submitting their bid.

Important Dates and Information:
Last Date of Sending Queries - 21.11.2022 at 05.00 PM
Pre-Bid Meeting - 22.11.2022 at 11.00 AM
Response to Pre-Bid Queries - 24.11.2022
Last date and time of Submission of Proposal - 08.12.2022 up to 04:00 PM
Opening of the Technical Bid - 08.12.2022 at 5:00 PM
Technical Presentation - To be communicated to eligible bidders.

-Sd-
Commissioner-cum-Secretary

TT-24 OIPR-29001/11/0032/2223

FERRO SCRAP NIGAM LIMITED
(A Government of India Undertaking)
CORPORATE OFFICE
Equipment Chowk, Central Avenue
P. B. No. 37 ■ BHILAI - 490 001 (C.G.)
Phone Nos. : 0788 - 2222474 / 475 Fax : 0788 - 2220423, 2223884
E-mail ID : g.saraswat@fsnl.co.in

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Sealed Tenders are invited for the following:
TN-02/2022-23: Engagement of firm for conducting Internal Audit for the F.Y. 2023-24, 2024-25 & 2025-26.
The vendors who are enlisted with us are also required to submit the offers as per tender.
The due date for submission of tender will be on or before 16.12.2022 by 2:30 PM and tenders will be opened on 16.12.2022 at 3:00 PM.
Visit our website www.fsnl.nic.in for tender documents, Corrigendum, Time Extensions etc.

DGM(MM)

ODISHA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Government of Odisha Undertaking)
Regd. Office: Janpath, Bhubaneswar-751022
CIN:U40102OR2004SGC007553

TENDER ALERT

1)E-Tender Call Notice No.CPC.25/2022-23: Sr.GM (CPC) invites Tenders from reputed manufacturers under two part bidding system for Supply of one 500MVA, 400/220/33kV ICT (without OLTC) Auto Transformer. The bidding documents will be available from 18.11.2022 (11.00Hrs.).
2)E-Tender Call Notice No.BLN-06/2022-23: GM (Elect.), EHT O&M Circle, Bolangir invites tenders from the Registered order suppliers /Authorized Manufacturers/ Authorized Dealers for Procurement of ACDB, DCDB, BMKs & Cable for 132/33kV Grid Sub-station, Balangir Old. The bidding documents are available from 18.11.2022 (10.00 AM).

Complete set of bidding documents are available on the tender portal: **www.tenderwizard.com/OPTCL** portal, and OPTCL's official website: **www.optcl.co.in**.

CAD-2768 **HIPR-36/2022-23** OIPR-04011/11/0129/2223

M BG-BGE

INBRIEF

Army's first LCH squadron moves to Missamari in Assam

The Army has moved its first light combat helicopter (LCH) squadron to Missamari, Assam, in the eastern sector near the Line of Actual Control (LAC). The LCH, India's first indigenously designed and developed attack helicopter, is also the first dedicated attack helicopter operated by the Army. "Two helicopters have moved there on November 1. The third light combat helicopter will move by November-end and the fourth by mid-December. The Army will receive the fifth LCH by January-end next year. The squadron will be fully operational by then," a defence source told *The Hindu*. The Air Force raised its first light combat helicopter squadron at Jodhpur in October.

ED Director Sanjay Kumar Mishra gets third extension

The Union government on Thursday gave a fresh one-year extension in service to ED Director Sanjay Kumar Mishra, according to an official order. This is the third extension given to the officer. The latest order issued by the Personnel Ministry said the 1984-batch Indian Revenue Service (IRS) officer will be in office till November 18, 2023. Mr. Mishra, 62, was first appointed Director of the Enforcement Directorate (ED) for a stipulated period of two years by an order on November 19, 2018. Later, by an order dated November 13, 2020, the Union government modified the appointment letter retrospectively and his two-year term was replaced by three years. PTI

Police clearance certificate no longer needed for Saudi visa

Indian citizens will no longer require police clearance certificate (PCC) for obtaining Saudi visa, the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia has announced. "The PCC will no longer be a requirement for Indian citizens to obtain a visa for travelling to Saudi Arabia," it said in a public announcement. The step was taken in view of the "strong relations and strategic partnership" between Saudi Arabia and India, it said.

"The Embassy appreciates the contribution of over two million Indian citizens living peacefully in the Kingdom," the Embassy stated.

Gauhati HC allows PETA to intervene in elephant case

The Gauhati High Court on Thursday allowed the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) India to intervene in the matter in which the Assam Forest Department is seeking directions for the return of Joymala, an elephant allegedly abused in a temple in Tamil Nadu. The Assam government had petitioned the High Court in September for bringing Joymala, also known as Jeymalyatha, back. The female elephant was taken to a temple in Tamil Nadu on a periodic lease in 2011. "The Bench of Justice Michael Zothankuma allowed the PETA India to intervene in the matter following an application filed in this regard," a PETA spokesperson said.

Rhino horns trafficked with impunity: report

SPECIAL

Rahul Karmakar
GUWAHATI

In terms of weight, there has been an increase in the seizure of rhino horns after 2017, despite an overall reduction in poaching, says a global threat assessment report presented at a convention of wildlife conservation agencies in Panama City.

The report says that "prolific" Vietnamese and Chinese criminal networks drive the trafficking of the horns throughout the illegal supply chain globally.

But what has alarmed the wildlife crime fighters is the audacity with which the smugglers transport the rhino horns unconcealed, indicating that "corrupt elements" help the traffickers move the horn shipments without bothering to disguise the products.

A comprehensive analysis titled "Executive summary of the rhino horn trafficking as a form of transnational organised crime (2012-2021): 2022 global threat assessment" was presented at the meeting of the Conference of Parties organised by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

Supported by the World Wide Fund for Nature, the Wildlife Justice Commission (WJC) prepared the document on the rhino horn trafficking during the decade from January 1, 2012, to December 31, 2021.

"More than 7.5 tonnes of rhino horns were seized globally during the decade. The average shipment weight increased markedly after 2017, despite a reduction in rhino poaching across Africa and the COVID-19 pandemic. This could indicate a greater involvement of organised crime groups as larger volumes of product are moved to increase profit margins per shipment," the report said.

Seized rhino horns being burnt by the Assam Forest Department near the Kaziranga National Park in 2021. RITU RAJ KONWAR

The threat assessment was compiled from the analysis of 674 rhino horn seizure incidents that had occurred globally during this decade, in addition to seven years of criminal intelligence and findings from the WJC investigations into the rhino horn trafficking, conducted since 2015.

The report said six countries and territories have dominated the rhino horn trafficking routes from the source to the destination locations, though more than 50 countries and territories were implicated in the transnational crime. These countries were South Africa, Mozambique, Malaysia, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, Vietnam, and China.

"Prolific Vietnamese and Chinese criminal networks are driving the trafficking throughout the supply chain. Although Vietnam is known to be the primary destination for rhino horn, investigations indicate a substantial proportion of the horn entering Vietnam is sold to Chinese buyers and smuggled overland into China," the report said.

The analysis indicated that at least 974 kg and potentially up to one-third of all the seized rhino horns, globally originated from the theft or illegal sale of both privately owned and government owned legally held stockpiles.

"Rhino horns are most frequently smuggled on commercial airlines. However, the *modus operandi* is shifting from small shipments in passenger luggage to larger shipments by air cargo," the report said.

"Rhino horn shipments are most often smuggled with no concealment at all, which is a notable difference from the other wildlife products and illicit commodities generally. It could suggest traffickers are more reliant on corrupt elements to move rhino horn shipments through the supply chain, making it unnecessary to disguise the products," it added.

UGC is aiding Hindutva brigade, says AIDWA

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The All India Democratic Women's Association (AIDWA) has demanded that the University Grants Commission (UGC) withdraw its directive to universities to hold lectures on ancient Indian democracy as it amounts to "glorification of anti-women ancient texts and traditions".

"The themes of the lectures include khap panchayats, feudal and dictatorial monarchies and anti-women customs that follow the Manusmriti. By issuing this letter, it has shown that it is not an autonomous agency which is wedded to the ideals of modern education, but that it is becoming a handmaiden of the Hindutva brigade," said a press statement issued by the AIDWA, which is the women's wing of the Communist Party of India (Marxist).

At COP-27, India opposes draft text on agriculture

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

India has opposed the developed world's efforts to extend the scope of mitigation to agriculture at the ongoing UN climate summit in Egypt, saying rich nations do not want to change their lifestyle to reduce emissions and are "searching for cheaper solutions abroad", sources said on Thursday.

Expressing concern over the draft decision text on the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture, India said developed countries are blocking a pro-poor and pro-farmer decision by insisting on expanding the scope for mitigation to agriculture, thereby compromising the very foundation of food security in the world, a source in the Indian delegation said.

India made it clear that the world is facing a climate crisis today because of the excessive historic cumulative emissions by the developed nations. "These nations are unable to reduce their emissions domestically by any worthwhile change in their lifestyles. Rather, they are searching for cheaper solutions abroad," it said.

EC may be honest, but can have definite political leaning: SC

Poll panel has come in for compliments, largely due to T.N. Seshan's reforms, says judge examining pleas on independence of the body

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

An Election Commissioner can be proficient, competent, completely honest and armed with an outstanding record of service, but he may have a definite political leaning which may end up displaying itself in office, a Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court said on Thursday.

Justice K.M. Joseph, leading a five-judge Bench, referred to how the 10th Chief Election Commissioner T.N. Seshan had managed to clean up the electoral system.

Justice Joseph said that Mr. Seshan merely had put in place a set of rules which reduced human discretion to the minimum. In such a scenario, Election Commissioners hardly need to fear pressure from any political party or government. Further, the Election Commission, as an institution, would maintain functional independence and institutional integrity, whatever the political leaning or competence of individual Commissioners may be.

> Election Commissioners just had to follow the rules and did not have to bother about coming under pressure from any political party
>
> **JUSTICE K.M. JOSEPH**
> Supreme Court judge

"The Election Commission of India is the envy of the world. Perhaps one institution which has come in for a lot of compliments, largely due to the reforms of T.N. Seshan. He had succeeded in putting in place a lot of rules to reduce human discretion to the minimum. By doing this, he eliminated fear. That is, the Election Commissioners just had to follow the rules and did not have to bother about coming under pressure from any political party," Justice Joseph observed orally.

The Bench is examining a series of petitions seeking functional independence for Election Commissioners. They have sought an "independent, neutral mechanism" for their appointment, outside the control of the government.

Advocate Prashant Bhushan, for petitioner Anoop Baranwal, said a neutral, high-level body, excluding the Prime Minister and Opposition Leader, should select the Election Commissioners. "Such a body could even be a collegium of Supreme Court judges," Mr. Bhushan said.

In a first, six women Army officers clear the Staff Course

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Out of the six, four women officers will undergo a one-year course at DSSC, Wellington

For the first time, six women Army officers have cleared the Defence Services Staff Course (DSSC) and Defence Services Technical Staff Course (DSTSC) exam, which is held annually in September.

This flows from the Supreme Court judgments over the past two years granting permanent commission as well as command postings to women officers in all arms and services other than combat.

Out of the four women officers nominated for Defence Services Staff College (DSSC), Wellington, one is the spouse of an officer who has also cleared the DSSC exam, thereby making history as being the first couple from the Army to attend the course together at Wellington, Army officials said.

"Out of the six, four women officers will undergo a one-year course at DSSC, Wellington, alongside their male counterparts from all three services," an Army official said.

"They will be imparted training on operational, military intelligence, operational logistics and administrative aspects of staff appointments," the official added.

The Staff Course gives adequate weightage while being considered for command appointments, officials said. Of the other two women officers, one is on the reserve list of DSTSC, while the other has been shortlisted for Administration and Logistics Management Course (ALMC) and Intelligence Staff Course (ISC).

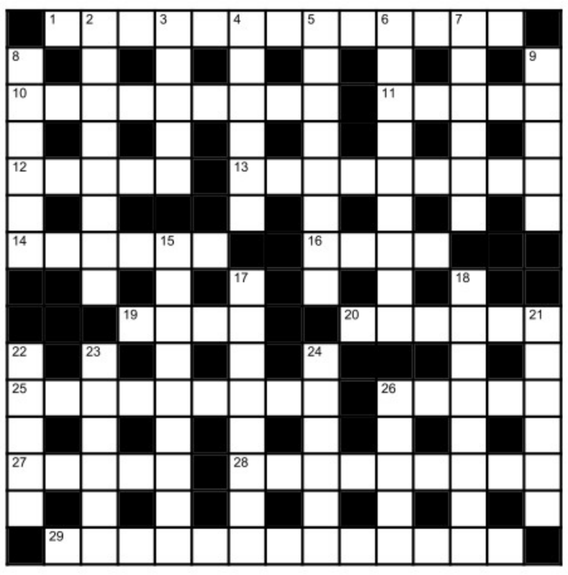
More than 1,500 officers of the Army appear in the DSSC and DSTSC entrance exam. This year, for the first time, 22 women officers from Army Service Corps, Army Air Defence, Army Ordnance Corps, Corps of Signals, Corps of Intelligence, Corps of Engineers and Corps of EME, who have been granted Permanent Commission in the respective arms and services, appeared in the exam, officials stated.

TH CROSSWORD + 13714

(set by Afterdark)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Health indicator puts strain on family (5,8)
10 Pasta is tops (9)
11 Nobody has energy by 12 pm (2,3)
12 Firm procured tool to fish (5)
13 Doctor rents her cold platters (9)
14 Son's club keeps badger (small) meat pieces (6)
16 God upset? No, on the contrary (4)
19 Half of your field, in the middle area has fertilizer (4)
20 Leading ENT doctor provides oil cure for clots (6)
25 School devised two methods to catch adult ticketless travellers (9)
26 Err leaving frontier in a haste, or else (2,3)
27 New York politician reaches hotel with siren (5)
28 Work hard with old Indians to catch snakes, perhaps (9)
29 Peace symbols with love? Victor surrounded by deceit, shoots (5,8)

Down

2 Pleat her saree covered by flannels, say (8)
3 Colour of car has red etchings in the front (5)
4 Little bird after training got some egusi (6)
5 'Bisexuals are great' - Nurse Ecstasy Sierra (8)
6 Boy! I'm at college holding ball - sound from the back, one produced by aircraft (5,4)
7 Greek character gets guides halfway for colonist (6)
8 Physics is terrible, first person leaving frightens (6)
9 Lecturer - it's mostly easy to maintain high discipline (5)
15 First Golden Globe award, primarily given to rebel opposing Russian leader (9)
17 Groom is following Tom at a vault (8)
18 Told to wait for bash time (8)
21 I quote a tweet at New York time for a kind of study (2,4)
22 Employing American in government (5)
23 German General's memorial desecrated after removing one article (6)
24 Condition of a small article chipped at the end found by mother (6)
26 A new director in charge; related to us (5)

SUDOKU

9					7			
2		6	8					4
	3			6		7		
		4		3		6		
		7	1		4	8		
		5		7		9		
		9		4			7	
1					6	5		2
			3					8

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

No.SS5622 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

Solution to previous puzzle

O	V	E	R	C	A	S	T		R	U	N	O	U	T
U		M		U		A			N		V		R	
T	A	I	L	B	A	C	K		C	A	T	E	N	A
L		G		I		E			F		R		C	
A	E	R	A	T	O	R	S		A	R	M	L	E	T
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L		V		J		T		C		D		S		S
E	R	A	D	I	C	A	T	E	S					
O		L		U		L		T		E		A		L
N	A	V	A	J	O		C	I	A	B	A	T	T	A
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Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

9	2	4	1	5	8	7	3	6
5	8	6	9	3	7	2	4	1
3	1	7	6	2	4	5	8	9
6	9	8	7	4	5	1	2	3
4	3	5	2	9	1	8	6	7
1	7	2	3	8	6	9	5	4
7	5	1	4	6	2	3	9	8
8	6	9	5	7	3	4	1	2
2	4	3	8	1	9	6	7	5

FAITH

Courtesy to strangers

Tamil works like Thirukkural speak of 'virundhombal'. This is the act of offering a meal to a stranger, said Malayaman in a discourse. Virundinar means a stranger who comes to one's house. Extending a warm welcome to a stranger and offering him food was considered an estimable virtue in Tamil Nadu, and is an act lauded in many Tamil works. Purapporul Venbamalai, a medieval Tamil grammar work, says virundhombal is akin to performing a yaga. Thirikadugam says eating without first offering food to a visitor is a disease. Such behaviour is, therefore, most undesirable.

Prabhulinga Leelai says that he who eats without offering food to others and he who ignores those who suffer and are therefore dejected is to be considered a wicked man. Avvaiyar says that he who does not practise virundhombal is to be seen as a man with bad conduct. Thiruvalluvar says that if a man is wealthy, but does not practise virundhombal, then he is poor despite all his riches. Only a fool exhibits such characteristics, says Thiruvalluvar. Aranerichaaram guarantees that those who practise virundhombal will be welcomed in heaven. In ancient Tamil Nadu, we find that it was not only the rich who showed such kindness to visitors. Even those not blessed with riches opened their doors and hearts to strangers.

The Sangam era work Purananuru records that a soldier pledged his sword and a woman pledged a musical instrument known as yazh to serve a meal to visitors. Purananuru says that a woman worshipped before a hero stone praying for the visit of a stranger to her house so that she could do her duty as a housewife and serve him food.

NETHERLANDS

Three sentenced to life in absentia for downing MH17 over Ukraine

A Dutch court in the Netherlands on Thursday sentenced two Russians and a Ukranian to life imprisonment after being convicted, in absentia, of downing Malaysia Airlines flight MH17 over Ukraine in 2014. "The court calls the charges so severe that only the highest sentence would be appropriate," the head judge said. REUTERS

SEOUL

North Korea fires missile hours after warning of 'fiercer' response

North Korea fired a short-range ballistic missile on Thursday, Seoul's military said, the latest in a record blitz of launches as Pyongyang warned of a "fiercer" military response to the United States and its allies. This evidently suggests that North Korea views the joint military drills as evidence of U.S. aggression. AFP

BANGKOK

Macron says Australia submarine cooperation offer 'on the table'

French President Emmanuel Macron said on Thursday that an offer to cooperate with Australia on submarines still stood, after a bitter row over a cancelled contract last year threatened relations. He said France would not supply nuclear submarines to foreign countries, so the offer related only to conventional vessels. AFP

WASHINGTON

Nancy Pelosi to step down after Democrats lose House majority

Democrat Nancy Pelosi, the trailblazing first woman speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, said on Thursday that she will step down as party leader when Republicans take control of the chamber in January. "I will not seek re-election to Democratic leadership in the next Congress," the 82-year-old Pelosi said. AFP

U.K. hikes taxes, cuts spending as recession looms

The Budget, which was a response to the soaring cost of living and high energy costs, was intended to improve 'stability, growth and public services', says Jeremy Hunt

Sriram Lakshman
LONDON

The Rishi Sunak government announced a £55 billion "consolidation" package of tax hikes and spending cuts in an attempt to get Britain's public finances back on track partly to undo the damage caused by former Prime Minister Liz Truss's September 'mini-budget', which had startled markets. The measures, some details of which were already released, were announced by Chancellor Jeremy Hunt in the House of Commons on Thursday, and they come as Britain slips into a recession and grapples with 11.1% inflation – its highest in 41 years.

The 'Autumn Statement', which was a response to the soaring cost of living, high energy costs, extraordinary spending undertaken during the pandemic, and global impacts of the Russia-Ukraine war, was intended to improve "stability, growth and public services" as per Mr. Hunt.

The shadow Chancellor, Labour's Rachel Reeves, speaking in Parliament after Mr. Hunt, blamed "12 weeks of Conservative chaos" and "12 years of Conservative economic failure" for the U.K.'s current situation. The standard of living, as measured by real disposable income per person, is expected to fall by 4.3% in the current fiscal year and 2.8% the following year, according to fiscal watchdog, the Office of Budget Responsibility (OBR), which also released its statistics on Thursday.

Just a day earlier, Bank of England Governor Andrew Bailey had told the Commons Treasury Committee that the U.K.'s GDP was 0.7% lower than pre-COVID levels, while Eurozone and the U.S. had recovered to above pre-COVID levels. Mr. Bailey had also agreed that Brexit had had adverse impacts on the U.K. economy.

Mr. Hunt's package was a combination of £30 billion in spending cuts and £25 billion in tax increases, including a lowering of the threshold for the highest rate of personal income tax of 45%, from £1,50,000 to £1,25,000. This is a significant shift from the scrapping of the 45% rate that Kwasi Kwarteng, Chancellor in the Truss government, had initially announced in September. Other tax thresholds will remain frozen – meaning Britons will pay more taxes as they go into higher brackets as salaries rise with inflation. Dividend and capital gains allowances will also be reduced, starting April next year. Support for energy bills will also be more muted.

Tough choices: Rishi Sunak (left) and Jeremy Hunt (centre) during the Budget statement in the House of Commons on Thursday. AP

Tax bills for business will go up, including a time-bound increase in windfall taxes on energy companies, expected to raise £14 billion next year.

National living wage

Mr. Hunt also announced a 9.7% increase in the 'national living wage' to £10.42 per hour and pension increases in line with inflation .The statement included additional funding for the NHS and schools and Mr. Hunt agreed that defence spending would need to increase but will stay at least at 2% of GDP – in line with the U.K.'s NATO commitments, until the revision of the U.K.'s Integrated Review (of foreign and security policy) was completed.

Spending cuts, however, will mostly begin to take effect in 2024 and extend past January 2025, by when Mr. Sunak has to call for the next general election. Ms. Reeves said the government was attempting to "lay some so-called traps for the Labour Party" as she outlined her view of Mr. Hunt's measures.

Alison Thewliss, a spokesperson for the Scottish National Party (SNP), which wants Scotland to be part of the European Union (EU), said the Tories and the Labour party were in "denial about the long-term damage they are causing with Brexit", according to *The Guardian*. Markets reacted relatively calmly to the announcement – the Pound was trading at slightly under $1.18 after the 11.30 a.m. budget announcement, a small drop of about 1.1% in its value from the morning.

Republicans seize control of U.S. House, Congress split

Agence France-Presse
WASHINGTON

Republicans on Wednesday took control of the U.S. House of Representatives from Democrats, networks said, returning the party to power in Washington after narrowly securing a legislative base to oppose President Joe Biden's agenda for the final two years of his term – and leaving power in Congress split.

The slim Republican majority in the Lower House of the U.S. legislature will be far smaller than the party had been banking on, and Republicans also failed to take control of the Senate in a historically weak performance in the November 8 midterm elections.

Sri Lanka's Tamil parties sceptical of President Ranil's outreach

Meera Srinivasan
COLOMBO

Reaching out to Sri Lanka's Tamil parties in Parliament on November 10, President Ranil Wickremesinghe invited them for a discussion this week, and pledged to resolve their pending issues before the island nation's 75th Independence Day falling on February 4, 2023. However, Tamil politicians, who are yet to receive a date for the meeting, are highly sceptical.

Many Sri Lankan leaders have in the past promised, and invariably failed, to deliver a political solution to the island's Tamil national question. Most recently, the Maithripala Sirisena-Wickremesinghe administration, in power between 2015 and 2019, attempted to draft a new Constitution but did not complete the task, much to the disappointment of Tamils who backed their government. "Let us all get together and make it a point to solve this problem by our 75th anniversary of Independence. We don't need others to intervene in our country's matters. We can solve our issues," Mr. Wickremesinghe told Parliament last week.

M.A. Sumanthiran

The Tamil National Alliance (TNA), the largest grouping of legislators from the north and east, welcomed his call and expressed readiness to "fully cooperate". TNA leader and 89-year-old parliamentarian R. Sampanthan, who has been trying to negotiate a constitutional settlement with various Sinhalese leaders for decades, has said he hopes the President's pledge is genuine this time. The southern leadership must be prepared to do away with the unitary Constitution, former Chief Minister of the Northern Province C.V. Wigneswaran has said, ahead of the possible meeting with the President.

TNA spokesman M.A. Sumanthiran said despite known differences among Tamil parties, the TNA invited them for a discussion this week, "as we all share the objective of achieving meaningful power devolution under a federal set up". The meeting of Tamil parties did not materialise as planned. "We are hopeful of holding it," he said, while raising doubts about President Wickremesinghe's "seriousness".

'No seriousness'

Mr. Sumanthiran said he asked President Wickremesinghe, at the tea party following the Budget on November 14, about the said meeting. "The President told me he was coming to Jaffna in January. When I asked him about this week's meeting that he had announced, he said that if we wanted, we could meet this week. It [his responses] showed there is no seriousness to do anything in earnest."

The need for greater power devolution and a political solution have also been central to Indian engagement in Sri Lanka.

While sharply critical of the TNA's positions, Jaffna legislator Gajendrakumar Ponnambalam, who leads the Tamil National People's Front, said the TNA's recent invitation to other Tamil parties for a discussion was welcome, for it put federalism "back on the agenda". In his view, even if President Wickremesinghe were to convene the meeting, "there is no point in engaging" unless he openly commits to basing the discussion on a federal Constitution.

Although Mr. Ponnambalam did not sound upbeat about the President's invitation to Tamil parties, he is optimistic that the economic and political crisis this year has presented "a real opportunity for Sri Lanka to soul-search" and decisively address the long-pending concerns of Tamils. "People of the south feel let down. They see that their leaders fought a war in their name, pursued racist policies in their name... and for the first time since 1948 [year of Sri Lankan Independence] they are calling into question all that they have been told by [Sinhalese] leaders. If we can get our act together now as a country, we can certainly set things right," he said.

'New Russian strikes hit cities across Ukraine'

Agence France-Presse
KYIV

Fresh Russian strikes hit cities across Ukraine on Thursday, officials said, the latest in a wave of attacks that have crippled the country's energy infrastructure as winter sets in and temperatures drop.

The salvoes of Russian missiles this week came as officials announced good news on Thursday on the extension of the agreement allowing Ukraine to export grain through the Black Sea, which aims to help the global supply of food.

Office of the Engineer-in-Chief, PRAMC,
4th Floor, PWD Annexe Building, K.R. Circle, Bangalore-560001
No.EIC/40/PRAMC/RS/2022-23/823 Date: 16-11-2022
Short Term Tender Notification
The Executive Engineer, PRAMC, KPWD on behalf of Governor of Karnataka, invites Short Term Tenders for the 03 Road Safety works in Udupi and Kodagu District. Further details can be obtained from Karnataka e-procurement portal **(www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in)** from **18-11-2022** onwards. Any further details can be obtained from this office. E-mail : **cepramc@kpwd.gov.in**
DIPR/CP/3127/Sreshta/2022-23 **Sd/- Executive Engineer, PRAMC**

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Vijayanagar Division, 3rd Main Road, 1st Floor,
Shasakara Bhavan, Vijayanagar, Bengaluru - 560040
No: EE(VJN)/AE/TEND/14/2022-23 Date: 17-11-2022
TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Two Cover System) (Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only)
The Executive Engineer, Vijayanagar Division, BBMP, Bengaluru invites tenders from eligible Contractors registered in BBMP or equivalent registration with CPWD / KPWD / Railways / MES or any State Government Organizations for the Construction of works detailed below.
(Standard Tender Document - KW-3)

Sl. No.	Name of the Work / Category	Approx. Amount of Work (Rs. in Lakhs)	EMD Declaration
1	Improvements to Roads at 5th Main & 6th Main Road in Ward No. 157, Vijayanagar. **(Others)**	**52.00**	**104000.00**
2	Improvements to Road at 1st, 1st A & B Main Road in Ward No. 157, Vijayanagar. **(Others)**	**53.00**	**106000.00**
3	Improvements to Roads at 10th Cross connecting Roads of Manjunathanagar in Ward No. 157, Vijayanagar. **(Others)**	**53.00**	**106000.00**
4	Improvements of Roads & Drains in Sarkari Honi and Surrounding Areas in Hosahalli in Ward No. 124, **(Others)**	**75.00**	**150000.00**
5	Improvements of Roads & Drains in Harijan Colony and Surrounding Areas in Hosahalli in Ward No. 124, **(Others)**	**74.00**	**148000.00**
6	Improvements of Roads & Drains in Pipeline Road Church and Surrounding Areas in Hosahalli in Ward No. 124, **(Others)**	**51.00**	**102000.00**
7	Asphalting to 4th Main Road and 3rd Main Road in Ward No. 160, Bapujinagar. **(Others)**	**52.00**	**104000.00**
8	Construction of Ward Office Building at Ward No. 160, Bapujinagar. **(Others)**	**52.00**	**104000.00**

Calendar of Events: **1)** Tender documents may be downloaded from the GOK e-Procurement portal Website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in from 30-11-2022. 2)** Pre Bid Meeting will be held on **06-12-2022 at 15.00 Hrs. in the Office of the Executive Engineer (Vijayanagar), BBMP, 1st Floor, Shasakara Bhavan, 3rd Main, Vijayanagar, Bengaluru - 560040. 3)** Tenders must be submitted online through e-Procurement Portal **on or before 16.00 Hrs. on 09-12-2022. 4)** Technical Bids for Two Cover System will be Opened on **12-12-2022 at 11.30 Hrs. in the Office of the Executive Engineer (Vijayanagar).** Further details can be had from the above office.
Sd/- Executive Engineer, Vijayanagar Division, BBMP.
PAY DEVELOPMENT CHARGES, HELP TO DEVELOP BENGALURU

PUBLIC NOTICE
Publics are informed that, my client **Sri. Abishek Subramanya,** S/o.Subramanya Bhadravati Keshavarao, from Bengaluru has interest to be purchased the Immovable Residential **Vacant Site No.101,** measuring **East to West (19.70+20.50)/2 Meters and North to South 9.00 meters, totally** measuring **180.90Sq. Meters,** situated at 2nd Stage, 13th Block, Nagarabhavi Layout, Yashawanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore District, Now comes under the jurisdiction of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, Ward No.73-Laggere Sub-zone and bounded on; **East by:** Road; **West by:** Private Property; **North by :** Site No. 102; **South by:** Site No.100.
From the present owner namely, Smt.Vijayalakshmi, W/o. Late. M. Kapani Gowda.
Persons having any right over the said property may lodge their objections/ claims with documentary evidence within 15 days from the date of this publication, to the undersigned.
Devika Kumari. A., Advocate.,
No.1115, Ground Floor,
26th 'B' Main, 41st Cross,
9th Block Jayanagar,
Bangalore-560 069.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Public are informed that our client intends to purchase the Industrial Property bearing Plot No.32, bearing BBMP Katha No.156 / 150/32, measuring 4293 Sq.meters along with structures standing thereon, in Survey No. 22, situated at Hoodi, K R Puram Hobli, Bangalore and bounded on:
East by : Plot No.31;
West by : Road;
North by : Plot No.33;
South by : Plot No.30.
from its owner **M/s. Cotton World** represented by its Partners Mr. B N Monnappa and Mrs. B M Saraswathi.
Persons having any right over the property may lodge their claims and objections with documentary evidence within 7 days from the date of this publication to the undersigned.
K.V.Narendra & Associates,
No.557, 2nd Floor, 9th 'A' Main,
1st Stage, Indiranagar,
Bangalore - 560038.

BANGALORE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
T. Chowdaiah Road, Kumara Park West, Bengaluru - 560 020
Tender No. BDA/2022-23/EL/WORK_INDENT1523 Date: 17.11.2022
INVITATION FOR SHORT-TERM TENDERS
BDA invites short-term tenders for **"Providing 1 No of MCVCB type 11 KV Switchgear at Bandemata 66/11 Kv Sub Station for arranging power supply to the BDA Housing Projects at Kommaghatta Village, BDA, Bengaluru".**
Calendar of Events : (1) Peirod of Submitting the Tender Document from: **19.11.2022. (2)** Last date and time of submission of the bid along with necessary documents: **25.11.2022, 17.00 Hrs. (3)** Date and time for opening of Technical & Financial bid: **28.11.2022,17.00 hrs.**
For more details please refer e-procurement portal from the website: **http://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** or contact at office of the Executive Engineer (Elec.), BDA, T. Chowdaiah Road, Kumara Park West, Bengaluru. Contact No.: +91 9845630164, For queries contact email id: eeelec.bda@gmail.com
BDA/PRO/TN/25/2022-23 **Sd/- Executive Engineer (Ele.), Electrical Division, BDA, Bengaluru**

International Institute of Information Technology, Naya Raipur
Plot No.7, Sector 24, Atal Nagar, Nava Raipur - 493661, (C.G.), India
E- TENDER NOTICE
Following tenders are invited on behalf of Director IIIT-NR from interested bidders:

Sl.No	Tender Enquiry Number	Description of Tender
1	IIITNR/ILL/22	Supply and Installation of Leased Line Internet
2	IIITNR/Admin/SAC/2022-23	Supply & Installation of Gym Equipment
3	IIITNR/Vehicle/22-23	Vehicle Hiring Services at IIIT-NR

Bidders can download complete set of bidding documents from e-procurement platform **https://www.tenderwizard.com/IIIT** and **IIIT-NR website https://www.iiitnr.ac.in** from **18th November 2022** onwards. Bidders need to submit the bids online by uploading all the required documents through **https://www.tenderwizard.com/IIIT** for Tender Enquiry No. mentioned in Serial number 01 & 02 and need to submit the required documents offline for Tender Enquiry No. 03.
Purchase Officer

PUBLIC NOTICE
The General public are hereby notified that my clients propose to purchase the Schedule Property from the owners -**Mrs.ANNABELLE GRACE MANWARING, Mrs.LOUISE KHURSHID and Mrs.SUSAN MARY FERNANDES,** Residents of Bangalore.
Any person or persons having any claims over the Schedule Property of objections for the proposed sale transaction may lodge their claims/ objections with attested copies of document so as to reach the undersigned within **7(Seven)days** from the date fo publication of this notice, failing which thereafter my clients shall proceed to complete the sale transaction and any claims/ objections received beyond the stipulated period will no be entertained by my clients.
SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All that piece and parcel of the **residential immovable property bearing corporation No 529** (BDA No 529), PID No 99-41-529-, situated at **11th Cross,Rajamahal Vilas, Bangalore,** Ward No.35,Aramane Nagara Sub Division, together with the RCC building thereon and including all rights and privileges attached there to and the site measuring :
East to West : 36.57 Meters , North to South : 16.15 Meters - Total Area : 590.60 square meters and bounded as follows
East by : Road, **West By :** Science Institute Compound
North by : Science Institute Compound, **South by :** BWSSB Property
N. JAIPRAKASH RAO, VEENA RAO, N ASHOK KUMAR
JAYPEE ASSOCIATES LAW FIRM # 38 " Krishna " 1st Cross
Mallesharam Bengaluru- 560003 Phone-080-23560365,23468742

INBRIEF

NMDC cuts iron ore prices by ₹300 a tonne, lowest this FY

India's largest iron ore producer NMDC has slashed the price of lump ore and fines by ₹300 each per tonne. Effective November 17, the price has been fixed at ₹3,800 per tonne of lump ore and ₹2,610 for the same quantity of fines, NMDC said on Thursday. The earlier prices were in force unchanged since August 11. The latest revision, with which the price is at the lowest thus far this fiscal, came amid NMDC reporting 62% decline in consolidated net profit for the quarter ended September to ₹885.65 crore.

Ashok Leyland delivers 150 vehicles to Tanzania police

Ashok Leyland has delivered 150 trucks and buses to the Tanzania police force under a contract signed with the Ministry of Home Affairs, Tanzania. "These 150 vehicles will get added to the 475 Ashok Leyland vehicles which are already in operation in the Tanzanian police force," said Ashok Leyland president Amandeep Singh. The vehicles delivered included police staff buses and 4x4 police troop carriers. The order is financed by a long-term soft loan extended by EXIM Bank.

Apollo Tyres' Chennai plant bags Deming prize for quality

Apollo Tyres Ltd.'s (ATL) Chennai plant has bagged the Deming prize, one of the highest awards for total quality management. Unit head C. Thomas Mathew received the award from the Deming Prize Committee in Tokyo. The prize was for 'achieving outstanding performance by practising TQM, utilising statistical concepts and methodologies based on the company's excellent business philosophy, and leadership', ATL said.

FM asks NIIF to guide private capital into infrastructure

The National Investment and Infrastructure Fund proposes its first bilateral fund with Japan, banking on government funding; Sitharaman urges the fund to expand its lending operations

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has urged the National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF) to expand its operations and explore ways to crowd in private capital for projects under the National Infrastructure Pipeline, PM Gati Shakti and National Infrastructure Corridor.

The loan book of two major infrastructure focused non-banking finance companies, where the government-funded NIIF has a majority stake, has grown from ₹4,200 crore to ₹26,000 crore in three years with no loans turning into NPAs till date, the NIIF informed its governing council chaired by Ms. Sitharaman.

The NIIF has proposed setting up its first bilateral fund, an 'India Japan Fund' with contributions from the government, and signed an MoU on November 9 with the Japan Bank for International Development, it told the council.

'Tap fundamentals'

"The Finance Minister asked the NIIF team to build on the work done so far and leverage India's attractive investment fundamentals to expand its operations," the Finance Ministry said in a statement. The Minister also encouraged NIIF 'to continue discussions with investors from countries that are keen to invest in India'.

Investment shepherd

NIIF can help crowd in private capital into infrastructure projects

- Finance Minister urges fund to back National Infrastructure Pipeline, PM Gati Shakti projects
- NIIF says two infra-focused NBFC units have grown loan book to ₹26,000 cr. in 3 years
- NIIF's maiden bilateral fund involves MoU with Japan Bank for international Development

- FM urges fund to leverage attractive investment fundamentals, tap countries keen to invest in India

Softbank sells 4.5% in Paytm for ₹1,631 cr.

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Softbank on Thursday divested a 4.5% stake in Paytm's parent One97 Communications for ₹1,631 crore through an open market transaction.

Earlier this month, the lock-in period ended for the pre-offer investors who had invested in the Paytm parent, which was listed on the bourses in November last year.

According to bulk deal data available with the National Stock Exchange (NSE), SVF India Holdings (Cayman) Ltd. sold a total of 2,93,50,000 shares, amounting to 4.5% stake in the company.

SVF India Holdings (Cayman) Ltd. is a subsidiary of Japan's Softbank.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	THURSDAY	%CHANGE
Sensex	61,751	-0.37
US Dollar	81.64	-0.46
Gold	53,235	-0.40
Brent oil	91.39	-1.31

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	4018.15	61.55
Adani Ports	890.85	3.50
Apollo Hosp	4400.30	-78.95
Asian Paints	3071.60	-11.45
Axis Bank	858.20	2.80
Bajaj Auto	3694.15	-53.30
Bajaj Finserv	1664.60	-21.05
Bajaj Finance	6895.05	0.00
Bharti Airtel	846.15	4.95
BPCL	305.20	-1.25
Britannia Ind	4125.20	-6.30
Cipla	1119.50	-1.70
Coal India	232.40	-2.50
Divis Lab	3290.00	0.20
Dr Reddys Lab	4421.30	-59.70
Eicher Motors	3441.85	-61.20
Grasim Ind	1710.65	-16.85
HCL Tech	1092.55	-12.65
HDFC	2659.25	-37.95
HDFC Bank	1618.15	-14.75
HDFC Life	531.20	3.10
Hero MotoCorp	2744.00	4.55
Hindalco	440.45	-6.95
Hind Unilever	2460.00	-17.85
ICICI Bank	919.80	6.20
IndusInd Bank	1146.50	2.40
Infosys	1587.40	-15.40
ITC	343.70	-0.40
JSW Steel	708.60	0.35
Kotak Bank	1950.55	-15.35
L&T	2029.55	25.95
M&M	1259.35	-27.35
Maruti Suzuki	8986.45	-148.50
NestleIndia	19991.00	-106.90
NTPC	168.30	-1.65
ONGC	143.20	0.30
PowerGrid Corp	218.30	1.20
Reliance Ind	2599.05	6.70
SBI Life	1254.35	-0.55
State Bank	599.05	-0.70
Sun Pharma	1013.35	-5.30
TataConsumerProduct	786.00	16.45
Tata Motors	423.15	-8.40
Tata Steel	105.85	-0.70
TCS	3349.00	-6.35
Tech Mahindra	1058.55	-8.30
Titan	2582.00	-62.30
UltraTech Cement	6871.85	-40.15
UPL	771.45	3.95
Wipro	396.75	-1.50

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on November 17

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	81.45	81.77
Euro	84.35	84.68
British Pound	96.64	97.03
Japanese Yen (100)	58.26	58.50
Chinese Yuan	11.39	11.44
Swiss Franc	85.87	86.21
Singapore Dollar	59.19	59.44
Canadian Dollar	60.96	61.21
Malaysian Ringitt	17.88	17.97
Australian Dollar	54.38	54.63

Source:Indian Bank

TVS Motor plans to scale up EV capacity

N. Anand
CHENNAI

TVS Motor has drawn up plans to ramp up electric vehicle (EV) capacity to meet its target of 25,000 units by March 2023.

Sales of iQube electric scooter are increasingly doing well, with October wholesales at about 8,000 units, director and CEO K.N. Radhakrishnan said in an earnings call.

"Our first challenge is to deliver 10,000 this month and then 18,000 to 25,000 by March," he added.

According to Mr. Radhakrishnan, iQube has about 25,000 bookings and is being sold across 100 cities and towns.

Asked whether the EV business would likely be hived off into a separate subsidiary, the company said the management was exploring all options.

For FY23, the company has set aside a capex of ₹750 crore, predominantly towards EVs. Already about ₹320 crore had been invested in the first half.

"EV is the most important strategy... we [will] have in the next 12 quarters a full product pipeline."

Meta appoints Sandhya Devanathan as India head

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Social media giant Meta has appointed Sandhya Devanathan as the vice president of Meta India, the U.S.-based company said on Thursday.

She replaces Ajit Mohan who resigned from Meta, which owns Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp, earlier this month.

Ms. Devanathan, who joined Meta in 2016, will transition to her new role on January 1, 2023.

Sugar output nears 20 lakh tonnes: ISMA

M. Soundariya Preetha
COIMBATORE

Sugar production in the current season (October 2022 to September 2023) till November 15 stands at 19.9 lakh tonnes, according to the Indian Sugar Mills' Association (ISMA).

This is slightly lower than the 20.8 lakh tonnes produced last year as several mills in the western States are said to have begun production belatedly this season. ISMA had estimated the total production this season at 365 lakh tonnes after diversion of 45 lakh tonnes for ethanol.

According to data available with ports, contracts had been entered for exports of about 35 lakh tonnes of sugar so far. Of this, about two lakh tonnes had been shipped last month.

ISMA said several traders had entered into export contracts for the 2022-2023 season before the Centre announced the export policy.

Since then, there had been an upward trend in international prices and mills were renegotiating export contract prices.

Sport

LIVE TELECAST

New Zealand vs India: 1st T20I, Prime Video, 12 p.m.
I-League: Eurosport (SD & HD), 2 & 4.30 p.m.
ATP Finals: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Voot Select, 6.30 p.m. onwards.
PKL: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 7.30 p.m. onwards.
ISL: Star Sports 3, SS Select 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 7.30 p.m.

INBRIEF

Praggs bounces back in style, heartbreak for Arjun again

R. Praggnanandhaa blanked Liem Le Quang 3-0 in the third round of the $210,000 Meltwater Champions Chess Tour Finals on Wednesday. However, Arjun Erigaisi continued to struggle and crashed to his third successive 2.5-0.5 defeat, on this day to Wesley So. All matches ended with a game to spare. Magnus Carlsen crushed Shakhriyar Mamedyarov 3-0 and Jan-Krzysztof Duda plotted a nine-move checkmating combination to stop Anish Giri 2.5-0.5.

Manan Chandra and Vidya Pillai finish with silver medals

India won two silvers in the World snooker championships at Antalya (Turkey) on Thursday with Manan Chandra and Vidya Pillai losing in the Master's (40+) and women's finals respectively. Darren Morgan of Wales defeated Manan 52-63, 82-23, 59-42, 62-30, 18-59, 73-40, 25-85, 58-49 while Wendy James of Belgium beat Vidya 63-19, 19-64, 16-65, 56-19, 52-64, 66-34, 62-2.

India's young, fearless bunch raring to make a fresh start

INDIA IN NZ

Press Trust of India
WELLINGTON

India will aim to shed an archaic playing style with the help of a "young and fearless" bunch in the three-match T20I series against New Zealand, beginning here on Friday.

Hardik Pandya will be leading the side in Rohit Sharma's absence.

Not exactly 'B-Team'

Stand-in head coach V.V.S. Laxman has indicated that the management will be keen to add only T20 specialists to meet the requirements of the modern game. Ishan Kishan and Shubman Gill will be the likely openers for the first game but Rishabh Pant may get another opportunity at the top.

Gill will hope to make his T20I debut. Sanju Samson has been handed another chance and he would be desperate to make it count. The series also marks the return of Washington Sundar after his injury issues.

Chahal. TWITTER/BCCI

The New Zealand games could reunite the wrist spin duo of Kuldeep Yadav and Yuzvendra Chahal. India also needs an express pace bowler alongside Jasprit Bumrah and on that front Umran Malik seems to be the best bet.

The squads: New Zealand: Kane Williamson (Capt.), Finn Allen, Michael Bracewell, Devon Conway (wk), Lockie Ferguson, Daryl Mitchell, Adam Milne, Jimmy Neesham, Glenn Phillips, Mitchell Santner, Tim Southee, Ish Sodhi and Blair Tickner.

India: Hardik Pandya (Capt.), Rishabh Pant, Ishan Kishan, Shubman Gill, Deepak Hooda, Suryakumar Yadav, Shreyas Iyer, Sanju Samson, Washington Sundar, Yuzvendra Chahal, Kuldeep Yadav, Harshal Patel, Mohammed Siraj, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Arshdeep Singh and Umran Malik.

Match starts at 12 noon IST.

India-New Zealand H2H in T20Is

	Matches	India	New Zealand
Overall	20	11	9
In New Zealand	10	6	4

The schedule:
First T20I: Nov. 18, Wellington, **Second T20I:** Nov. 20, Mount Maunganui, **Third T20I:** Nov. 22, Napier
All matches start at 12 noon IST

No harm in having a new captain for T20Is, says Shastri

S. Dipak Ragav
CHENNAI

Former head coach Ravi Shastri said India will be well-served by having a separate T20I captain with Rohit Sharma leading the side in Tests and ODIs.

Speaking ahead of India's first T20I against New Zealand in Wellington, Shastri said: "I think there is no harm in having a new captain for T20Is. Because the volume of cricket is such, one player taking part in all three formats is never easy. Rohit is already leading in one-dayers and Tests and there is no harm in identifying a new T20I captain. If his name is Hardik Pandya then so be it."

Genuine quick bowler

Shastri also spoke about the importance of having a genuine quick bowler and backed Umran Malik. "You saw what happened in the World Cup where genuine pace rattled opposition, whether it was Haris Rauf, Naseem Shah, or Anrich Nortje. There is no substitute for genuine pace even if you are defending small totals."

Umran.GETTY IMAGES

Former India pacer Zaheer Khan said: "Umran is a very exciting talent. The kind of exposure at this level is going to help him. It is about how he takes things forward and how quickly he learns at this stage."

(Watch India's tour of New Zealand live and exclusive on Prime Video from Nov 18 to 30).

Poonam, Deepti, Sneh, Pooja named captains

Sports Bureau

Deepti Sharma, Poonam Yadav, Pooja Vastrakar and Sneh Rana will captain the four teams that will compete in the Senior Women's T20 Challenger Trophy tournament to be held at Raipur from November 20 to 26. The event will be played on a round-robin basis followed by the final between the top two sides.

The teams: India-A: Poonam Yadav (Capt.), Muskan Malik, Harleen Deol, S. Sajana, Amanjot Kaur, Disha Kasat, Shreyanka Patil, Saika Ishaque, Meghna Singh, Anjali Sarvani, Sahana Pawar, Nuzhat Parween, Shivali Shinde and S. Anusha.

India-B: Deepti Sharma (Capt.), Shafali Verma, Dhara Gujjar, Yuvashri, Arundhati Reddy, Nishu Chaudhary, Humaira Kazi, Devika Vaidya, Sonal Kalal, Monica Patel, Suman Meena, Simran Dil Bahadur, Taniya Bhatia and Laxmi Yadav.

India-C: Pooja Vastrakar (Capt.), S. Meghana, Priya Punia, Simran Shaikh, Tarannun Pathan, Kiran Navgire, Anjali Singh, Rashi Kanojia, Saranya Gadwal, Keerthy James, Komal Zanzad, Ajima Sangma, Richa Ghosh and Madiwala Mamatha.

India-D: Sneh Rana (Capt.), Jemimah Rodrigues, Jasia Akhter, Ashwani Kumari, D. Hemalatha, Kanika Ahuja, Jasia Akhter, Yastika Bhatia, Priyanka Priyadarshini, Shikha Pandey, Shraddha Pokharkar, Renuka Singh, Rajeshwari Gayakwad, Aparna Mondal and Sushma Verma.

The schedule: Nov. 20: India-A v India-C, 11 a.m.; India-B v India-D, 4.30 p.m. **Nov. 22:** India-A v India-B, 11 a.m.; India-C v India-D, 4.30 p.m. **Nov. 24:** India-A v India-D, 11 a.m.; India-B v India-C, 4.30 p.m. **Nov. 26:** Final, 4.30 p.m.

Mumbai City piles on the agony for Bengaluru FC

ISL-9

Shayan Acharya
MUMBAI

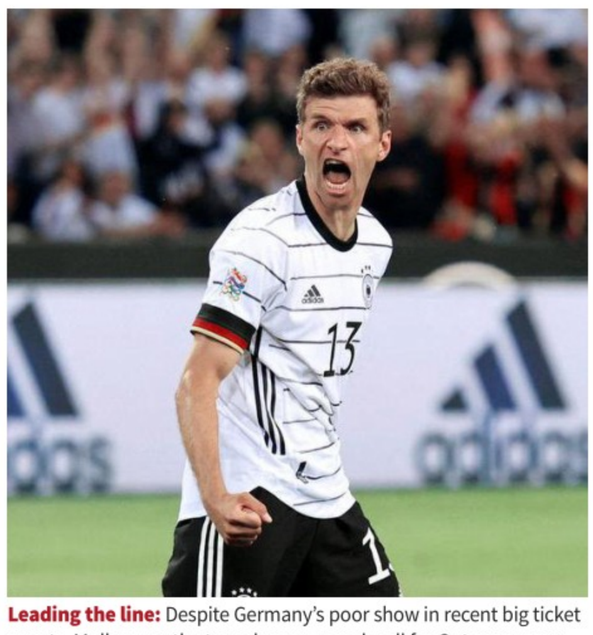
A power failure halted play for a while at the Mumbai Football Arena, but that couldn't stop Mumbai City FC from overpowering Bengaluru FC 4-0 in the ISL on Thursday. MCFC (15) remained second while BFC slipped to 10th with four points. Mumbai City took the lead in the 14th minute through Jorge Pereyra Diaz. Making the most of a poor first touch by Alan Costa, Diaz sprinted towards the box and drilled the ball past BFC goalkepper Gurpreet Singh Sandhu. Some poor defending by the visitors saw Lalengmawia Ralte make it 2-0 in the 32nd minute.

It was a similar story in the second half as Mumbai City struck again in the 58th minute through Bipin Singh. Diaz received a pass, ran into the box and relayed the ball to Bipin, who made no mistake.

Bengaluru talisman Sunil Chhetri did not start and was introduced only in the 62nd minute. Even before he could settle in, Mumbai City went up 4-0 in the 74th minute through Lallianzuala Chhangte, who unleashed a shot from the edge of the box.

The result: Mumbai City FC 4 (Diaz 14, Ralte 32, Bipin 58, Chhangte 74) bt Bengaluru FC 0.

Striking home: Ralte netted in the 32nd minute.EMMANUAL YOGINI



Leading the line: Despite Germany's poor show in recent big ticket events, Muller says the team has prepared well for Qatar. REUTERS

Germany's Muller lays a premium on the collective over the individual

The forward, who needs seven goals to top the charts, feels the Spain game will be exciting

INTERVIEW

Thomas Muller

Ten goals in his first two World Cups! Thomas Muller was all set to go for the highest scorer's award and beat compatriot Miroslav Klose (16) in Russia. But Germany had a forgettable tournament.

You need seven goals to be the highest scorer in World Cups. Does that motivate you more?

No, we don't think about personal goals. Our aim is to win the championship, always. In doing so, if I can contribute with a few goals, I shall be happy. But even if I don't score a single goal and our team wins, I shall be happy.

That has always been the *Die Mannschaft* philosophy...

We feel that should be ideal since we play a team sport, not an individual one. When the team achieves success, it's all ours. All clubs in Germany grow with the same philosophy of putting the team ahead of any personal goal. That is why team Germany has been the star rather than an individual.

What went wrong in Russia?

You cannot win always. There will be some bad days in office. For us, it was two out of three days. It was shocking for all of us. We prepared so well, but could not do what we wanted to do. A big lesson for all of us.

Even in Euro 2020, Germany lost to England in the pre-quarters...

We have to accept that we failed miserably again. These are things the German football team is not familiar with. But we have prepared well for Qatar.

Joachim Low had to go and Hansi Flick took over. How have things changed?

Not a big thing except that we have a new manager. He was at Bayern, so for us Bayern footballers, it was easier. For the others, too, it was quite okay since almost all German coaches love to play aggressively.

You have Spain in your group...

We have faced them when they were winning everything. Then we changed the trend in Brazil. Spain, too, did not have a great run in the last two editions. They too will be eager to return to their dominant best. It should be one of the most exciting matches.

There can be another Germany vs Brazil or Argentina in the semifinals...

We take it match by match. First the group stage, we need to proceed. That's the priority.

Will powerhouses Spain, Germany avoid the pitfalls of 'Group of Death'?

Costa Rica, though the weakest on paper in Group E, has a reputation of a giant-killer, while Japan will aim to do better than a pre-quarterfinal finish

FIFA WC COUNTDOWN

Aneesh Dey

With teams like Spain, Costa Rica, Germany and Japan in the mix, Group E is rightly being termed the 'Group of Death', though the two European powerhouses are favourites to progress.

The last time they faced off in a World Cup was the 2010 semifinal, with Spain progressing to the final and winning. Four years later, Germany was on the podium while Spain failed to make it past the group stage.

Russia 2018 was forgettable for both with Russia upsetting Spain in the pre-quarterfinals and Germany dumped out in the group stage for the first time in 80 years. Japan showed pluck when it qualified from the group in 2018, almost knocking out Belgium in the Round of 16. Costa Rica, playing its sixth World Cup, is the weakest team on paper in Group E. However, it has a history of being a giant-killer. In 2014, it beat Uruguay and Italy in the group stages and drew with England. It went on to reach the quarterfinals before being knocked out.

FACTFILE GROUP E

SPAIN

Appearances: 16 | Matches: 63
Goals: 99
Ranking: 7
Best performance: Winner in 2010
Captain: Sergio Busquets
Coach: Luis Enrique
Watch out for: **Pedri**

COSTA RICA

Appearances: 6 | Matches: 18
Goals: 19
Ranking : 31
Best performance: Quarterfinalist in 2014
Captain: Bryan Ruiz
Coach: Luis Fernando Suarez
Watch out for: **Bryan Ruiz**

JAPAN

Appearances: 7 | Matches: 21
Goals: 20
Ranking: 24
Best performance: Round of 16 in 2002, 2010, 2018
Captain: Maya Yoshida
Coach: Hajime Moriyasu
Watch out for: **Daichi Kamada**

GERMANY

Appearances: 20 | Matches: 109
Goals: 226 | Ranking: 11
Best performance: Winner in 1954, 1974, 1990, 2014 (first three as West Germany)
Captain: Manuel Neuer
Coach: Hansi Flick
Watch out for: **Joshua Kimmich**

SPAIN

La Furia Roja, under Luis Enrique, have shown glimpses of the football that made them a great force from 2008 to 2012.

Spain has always depended heavily on its midfielders and in Qatar it will be Pedri and Gavi in charge of creating chances.

COSTA RICA

Despite having a shaky start to its qualification campaign, Costa Rica recovered well to book its ticket to the Qatar World Cup.

With a solid 'keeper in Keylor Navas and players like Celso Borges, Joel Campbell and Bryan Ruiz, Costa Rica should hope to put a fight.

JAPAN

Questions were raised when Japan coach Hajime Moriyasu left out Celtic striker Kyogo Furuhashi despite his excellent form and Vissel Kobe forward Yuya Osako, saying he prefers players with "burning ambition" rather than experience.

Japan, though, has never progressed beyond the pre-quarterfinals.

GERMANY

Germany will like to wipe out every memory from 2018 and in Hansi Flick, formerly of Bayern Munich, it has a coach who has shown that he has a winning mentality.

With striker Timo Werner out injured, Kai Havertz will most probably assume the No. 9 role. Antonio Rudiger should start in central defence with either Niklas Sule or Dayot Upamecano partnering him.

Thomas Muller, Ilkay Gundogan and Joshua Kimmich will give midfield solidity while Leroy Sane and Serge Gnabry are likely to operate from the flanks with Jamal Musiala the surprise package.

Playmakers De Bruyne, Modric set to dazzle Group F

Neeladri Bhattacharjee

The tale of two midfield wizards – Kevin De Bruyne (Belgium) and Luka Modric (Croatia) – is set to make it an entertaining affair in Group F.

While De Bruyne continues to be the midfield architect for Manchester City, Modric – the Golden Ball winner in the previous World Cup – will hope to lead his team to a run similar to that in Russia.

Romelu Lukaku – Belgium's highest goal-scorer – has struggled with game time at the club level and will hope to cement his reputation as a forward.

When Canada last played in the World Cup, its current captain Atiba Hutchinson was just three years old and is the only player in the squad who was born then.

When the Maple Leafs take the field in Qatar, the 39-year-old will look to script history. Though Croatia and Belgium look the stronger ones on paper, anything can happen on the field – something that will be the agenda for Canada and Morocco.

FACTFILE GROUP F

BELGIUM

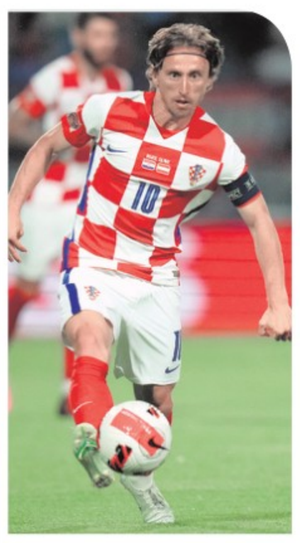
Appearances: 13 | Matches: 48
Goals: 68
Ranking: 2
Best performance: Third in 2018
Captain: Eden Hazard
Coach: Roberto Martinez
Watch out for: **Kevin De Bruyne**

CANADA

Appearances: 1 | Matches: 3
Goals: 0
Ranking: 41
Best performance: Last in its group in 1986
Captain: Atiba Hutchinson
Coach: John Herdman
Watch out for: **Alphonso Davies**

MOROCCO

Appearances: 5 | Matches: 16
Goals: 14
Ranking: 22
Best performance: Round of 16 in 1986
Captain: Romain Saiss
Coach: Walid Regragui
Watch out for: **Hakim Ziyech**



CROATIA

Appearances: 5 | Matches: 23
Goals: 35
Ranking: 12
Best performance: Runner-up in 2018
Captain: Luka Modric
Coach: Zlatko Dalic
Watch out for: **Luka Modric**

This will be Morocco's second successive since returning to the tournament after 20 years, in 2018, while Canada will play its second World Cup and the first in over three decades.

BELGIUM

The highest-ranked team in the group, Belgium's intensity under coach Roberto Martinez has not dimmed. With six wins and 25 goals in eight matches, it topped Group E of the European qualifiers.

Belgium is unbeaten in its group-stage matches since 1994.

CANADA

Promising youngsters like Jonathan David and Alphonso Davies have taken centrestage as Canada scored 23 goals in 14 matches in its qualifying campaign.

The last time it played in a World Cup, Canada lost all its group-stage matches with no goals to its name – something it will look to change this time around.

MOROCCO

Morocco has seen its coach changed despite Vahid Halilhodzic guiding the Atlas Lions to the World Cup. Former Morocco international Walid Regragui has taken over and has shown, in friendlies against Chile, an attacking approach.

Hakim Ziyech is expected to be back in action along with Achraf Hakimi, who has established himself as one of the best attacking full-backs in the world.

CROATIA

With veteran midfielder Ivan Rakitic retired, it will present Chelsea's Mateo Kovacic a chance to step up, alongside Ivan Perisic and Marcelo Brozovic. Croatia has scored in every World Cup match since 2006.

Benzema chuffed to be back in the World Cup mix

Says the French team is extra motivated to do well after its disappointing exit in the round of 16 at the Euro in 2020

INTERVIEW

Karim Benzema

Karim Benzema was not in France's World Cup winning squad in 2018. But his performances for Real Madrid forced French coach Didier Deschamps to recall him.

It must be exciting for you to return to World Cup after 2014.

Definitely! The experience in Brazil was truly awesome. The fans, the games, colourful and electrifying surroundings – I really enjoyed.

You were not there in 2018...

Let's forget that chapter. It was really amazing to see my teammates win. I talked to Croatia's Luka (Modric) about the final a few times at Real Madrid and had fun.

France is everyone's favourite. Your views.

We have been playing well the last few years. You cannot win everything every year. But overall it's a united squad. We play for each other which is the key. We have the right mix of youth and experience. It's a happy squad. And we know our responsibilities.

Perfect blend: Benzema feels France has the right mix of youth and experience. AFP

Is it a relatively easier group for France?

First of all, there's no easy group in a World Cup. The teams had to qualify and the process is not an easy one. Italy, the European champion, could not make it. That says it all.

You scored four goals in Euro 2020 but France lost in the pre-quarters. How painful was it?

That was really painful. I was not there four years earlier when we reached the final and lost to Portugal. Those who were there, say that they were keen not to repeat the same. But football is like that.

Deschamps acknowledged after winning the World Cup that the 2016 Euro defeat motivated the players.

He was right. I know my teammates, I talked to some of them and they all said the same. It was difficult for all of them to digest that Euro final defeat. Not only for them but also for all of us who were sitting outside and following the team. This time, too, we shall be going to a World Cup following with a round of 16 exit in the Euro. It's an added motivation.

Which teams can go the distance in Qatar?

There's nothing like a favourite. This is a World Cup in the Middle-East and the weather will be different. Footballers will be reaching there without having spent much time with their teammates and coach. It's going to be one of the toughest World Cups for all of us.

Indian junior women claim air pistol gold

Elated trio: The victorious team of Manu, Shikha and Esha.

Sports Bureau

The Indian junior women's team, comprising Manu Bhaker, Esha Singh and Shikha Narwal, won the air pistol gold beating Korea 16-12 in the Asian Airgun championship in Daegu, Korea, on Thursday.

However, the host managed to trump India in the women's team event.

The results: Air pistol: Women team: 1. Korea 16 (576) 861, 2. India (Rhythm Sangwan, Palak Ghulia, Yuvika Tomar) 12 (578) 854, 3. Singapore 16 (573) 854.

Junior women team: 1. India (Manu Bhaker, Esha Singh, Shikha Narwal) 16 (576) 862, 2. Korea, 3. Singapore 16 (555) 837.

INBRIEF

Tsitsipas bounces back to knock out Medvedev

Stefanos Tsitsipas battled back from 3-5 down in the third set to eliminate Medvedev with a 6-3, 6-7(11), 7-6(1) win, to set up a showdown on Friday with Andrey Rublev for a semifinal spot from the Red Group, in the ATP Finals here on Wednesday. Meanwhile on Thursday, Rafael Nadal avoided matching his worst-ever losing sequence with a 7-5, 7-5 victory over Casper Ruud in the Green Group.

South Korea downs India in Asia-Oceania blind football

South Korea men defeated India 2-1 in the match for the minor placings in the Asia-Oceania blind football championship at the United Sports Centre, Kakkanad, on Thursday.

Varun Muthappa wins HGA SZ amateur championship

Varun Muthappa finished the South Zone season on a winning note with an impressive performance in the Hyderabad Golf Association South Zone amateur championship. The win helped him top the South Zone amateur rankings and he will now compete in the National amateur circuit in Mumbai next week.

Karnataka pulls off a facile win over Delhi

After his bowlers impress, stand-in skipper Samarth guides the southern side home

HAZARE TROPHY

Y.B. Sarangi
KOLKATA

Karnataka bowlers operated like a well-oiled unit and stand-in captain R. Samarth scored a responsible half-century to guide their team to a convincing four-wicket win over Delhi in a Vijay Hazare Trophy Group-B match at the Jadavpur University Ground here on Thursday.

Karnataka restricted Delhi to a paltry 159 and achieved the target inside 30 overs.

The disciplined Karnataka pacers exploited the morning conditions nicely. V. Koushik scalped Himmat Singh and Yash Dhull, while V. Kaverappa dismissed Dhruv Shorey. Shivank Vashisht was run out as Delhi tottered at 36 for four.

Responsible knock: Samarth led from the front with a half-century. FILE PHOTO: SUDHAKARA JAIN

Captain Nitish Rana (30, 43b, 4x4) and the reliable Lalit Yadav (59, 100b, 7x4) added 27 before Rana, dropped on 26, was stumped off K. Gowtham.

Lalit and wicketkeeper-batter Lakshay Thareja (15, 35b, 1x4) again rescued Delhi by garnering 44 runs for the seventh wicket.

Lalit scored off the loose balls on either side. He pulled Kaverappa for two consecutive fours to reach his half-century and added 32 runs with Navdeep Saini (6, 15b). Koushik had Lalit caught behind to claim his third wicket.

Leg-spinner Shreyas Gopal, who broke the Lalit-Lakshay stand after being introduced in the 34th over, also took three wickets.

Good partnerships

Without the services of an unwell Mayank Agarwal, Samarth (59, 73b, 6x4) guarded one end and formed partnerships worth 33 with fellow opener B.R. Sharath (12, 26b, 3x4), 84 with Manish Pandey (48, 37b, 2x4, 4x6) and 33 with Shreyas (26, 31b, 4x4). Samarth, who played some cracking strokes besides rotating the strike, had the most fruitful time with Manish.

THURSDAY'S HAZARE TROPHY SCORES

Group A: At New Delhi: Manipur 138 in 44 overs (Sandeep Sharma 5/18) lost to Chandigarh 140/4 in 25.3 overs.

Hyderabad 256/9 in 50 overs (Michil Jaiswal 73, Rahul Buddhi 51) lost to Uttar Pradesh 262/3 in 48.4 overs (Madhav Kaushik 70, Aryan Juyal 100 n.o., Rinku Singh 78 n.o.).

Tripura 261/8 in 50 overs (Manisankar Murasingh 69 n.o.) bt Himachal Pradesh 222 in 46.2 overs (Shubham Arora 62).

Saurashtra 285/8 in 50 overs (Cheteshwar Pujara 56, Arpit Vasavada 100 n.o.) bt Gujarat 178 in 41.4 overs (Parth Bhut 4/57).

Group B: At Kolkata: Rajasthan 270 in 49 overs (Yash Kothari 139, Mahipal Lomror 52, Rahul Shukla 5/53) lost to Jharkhand 271/5 in 49 overs (Utkarsh Singh 91, Saurabh Tiwary 76).

Delhi 159 in 45.4 overs (Lalit Yadav 59) lost to Karnataka 161/6 in 29.4 overs (Ravikumar Samarth 59, Manish Pandey 48, Mayank Yadav 4/47).

Meghalaya 111 in 40 overs (Rajesh Bishnoi 53 n.o., Nachiket Bhute 4/21) lost to Vidarbha 113/1 in 27.1 overs.

Assam 307/8 in 50 overs (Riyan Parag 128) bt Sikkim 127 in 36 overs.

Group C: At Bengaluru: Haryana 397/8 in 50 overs (Chaitanya Bishnoi 134, Yuvraj Singh 131, Yab Niya 5/84) bt Arunachal Pradesh 91 in 32.3 overs (Rahul Tewatia 4/24).

Andhra 302/7 in 50 overs (Ashwin Hebbar 154, Hanuma Vihari 52, Ricky Bhui 52) bt Bihar 170 in 44.3 overs (Veer Pratap Singh 60).

Tamil Nadu 373/4 in 50 overs (Sai Sudharsan 117, N. Jagadeesan 168) bt Goa 316/6 in 50 overs (Ishaan Gadekar 51, Snehal Kauthankar 67, Eknath Kerkar 50, Siddhesh Lad 62 n.o.).

Chhattisgarh 171 in 48.1 overs (Akhil Scaria 4/25) lost to Kerala 175/2 in 36.1 overs (Ponnan Rahul 92 n.o.).

Group D: At Mumbai: Jammu & Kashmir 227 in 47.4 overs (Shubham Khajuria 72, Shubham Pundir 58 n.o.) lost to Punjab 231/2 in 28.4 overs (Abhishek Sharma 89, Anmolpreet Singh 101 n.o.).

Madhya Pradesh 276/8 in 50 overs (Yash Dubey 72, Shubham Sharma 100, Aditya Shrivastava 53 n.o., Swapnil Singh 4/60) bt Uttarakhand 266/9 in 50 overs (Aditya Tare 52, Swapnil Singh 82, Kuldeep Sen 4/51).

Baroda 284/7 in 50 overs (Pratyush Kumar 69, Vishnu Solanki 69, Bhanu Pania 55) bt Odisha 136 in 35.3 overs (Lukman Meriwala 4/35).

Group E: At Ranchi: Pondicherry 197 in 43.2 overs (Paras Dogra 63) lost to Bengal 202/2 in 39 overs (Sudip Kumar Gharami 56, Anustup Majumdar 100 n.o.).

Railways 347/6 in 50 overs (Shivam Chaudhary 125, Mohammad Saif 86) bt Services 244 in 42.2 overs (Ravi Chauhan 65, Amit Pachhara 54, Yuvraj Singh 4/48, Karn Sharma 5/39).

Maharashtra 342/2 in 50 overs (Pavan Shah 84, Rahul Tripathi 156 n.o., Azim Kazi 50 n.o.) bt Mumbai 321 in 49 overs (Yashasvi Jaiswal 142, Satyajeet Bachhav 6/46).

Malan's ton in vain as Australia cruises to six-wicket win

ENGLAND IN AUS

Agence France-Presse
ADELAIDE

A superb Dawid Malan century went in vain as Australia cruised to a six-wicket win over England in their first One-Day International here on Thursday.

Malan hit a stylish 134 (128b, 12x4, 4x6) as England made 287 for nine, but it never looked enough on a flat batting track. Australia was largely untroubled as it reached the target with 3.1 overs remaining. Openers David Warner (86) and Travis Head (69) put on a century stand while Steve Smith hit an unbeaten 80.

The scores: England 287/9 in 50 overs (Dawid Malan 134, Jos Buttler 29, David Willey 34 n.o.; Adam Zampa 3/55, Pat Cummins 3/62) lost to Australia 291/4 in 46.5 overs (David Warner 86, Travis Head 69; Steve Smith 80 n.o.).

Toss: Australia; **MoM:** Malan.

BENGALURU ROUND UP

Bhaskar beats Nagaraj

B. Bhaskar defeated L. Nagaraj 3-0 (85-28, 68-54, 64-10) in a Group-B match of the main league of the State-ranking snooker tournament on Thursday.

Vivek and Medhas shine for Vultures

N.P. Vivek scored 52 and Medhas Mukund took 4/4 as Vultures CC defeated Chintamani SA by 113 runs in a rain-curtailed KSCA (Group I) under-14 inter-club tournament match.

The scores: Vultures 171/4 in 30 overs (Mihran Abdul Rehman 47, N.P. Vivek 52, Udgeet S. Nandan 30) bt Chintamani SA 58/8 in 30 overs (Medhas Mukund 4/4). [Match reduced to 30 overs owing to wet outfield].

Mount Joy 157/9 in 38.0 overs (Atharv S. Deshpande 28, M.D. Dharsh 4/42) bt Bangalore Cricketers 38 in 21.3 overs (H.N. Karthik 3/6). [Match reduced to 38 overs owing to wet outfield].

Sir Syed Cricketers 130/7 in 25 overs (Charvik 30, Raghav Aggarwal 27 n.o.) bt Century Cricketers 53/9 in 25 overs. [Match reduced to 25 overs owing to wet outfield].

Brace by Chesterpaul and Shajan

A brace each from Chesterpaul Lyngdoh and Shajan Franklin helped FC Bengaluru United thrash Bangalore Eagles FC 7-0 in the BDFA Super Division league football on Thursday.

The results: FC Deccan 5 (Sandeep Manoharan 5, Shelton Nockson 18, Sohail 53, Prasannakumar 54, Harsh S. Uttekar 90+1) bt ADE 0; Bangalore Independents 2 (Muzamiri Abdallah Mtange 3, 81) bt MEG & Center 1 (Shaik Muzeeb 65); FC Bengaluru United 7 (Irfan Yadwad 12, Shibil Muhammed 15, Chesterpaul Lyngdoh 57, 87, Shajan Franklin 69, 90+1, Mohamad Kdouh 68) bt Bangalore Eagles 0.